

SCIENCE vs RELIGION Galileo's fight for the truth



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Discover Africa's mighty Benin Empire



ROYAL WEDDING BLOODBATH
How an anarchist assassin targeted Spain's royal family

ALL ABOUT

HISTORY

NAPOLEON'S WATERLOO

From prison break to war with Wellington, inside the exiled emperor's last stand



REJECTED Princesses
The historic heroines you'll never see in a Disney movie



DEATH RAILWAY GREAT ESCAPE
The WWII soldier who dodged death in Dunkirk, Singapore and Burma



PIRATES OF THE BARBARY COAST



PLUS
SPARTA SURVIVAL GUIDE, NAZIS CLASH AT CASTLE IITTER, LADY MELBOURNE, SPAIN'S PLOT TO INVAD

ISSUE 064
Digital Edition

VISIT...

LANZAROTE
Caliente.COM



WWII Troop sets from Airfix

Whether you are looking to bring new levels of realism to your diorama, or attempting to recreate a particular military action, or battle scene, the Airfix range of scale plastic figures allows the modeller to let their imagination run riot. These figures combine with other kits and accessories in the Airfix range, to bring your latest modelling project to life and can be used for wargaming too.

All the sets come with a variety of poses and different pieces of equipment, with colour coding to make interaction between opposing forces easy and fun to use. More sets will be coming out soon, so keep looking for more news!



GERMAN INFANTRY

This set of perfectly scaled figures and equipment includes an officer, grenade throwers and other key personnel from the Wehrmacht.
48 Unpainted Pieces



AFRIKA KORPS

Rommel's troops fought the 8th Army in the desert and the battles can be re-acted with this superb set of figures, which includes a senior staff officer.
48 Unpainted Pieces



WWII U.S. PARATROOPERS

The American airborne landings in Normandy were the first United States combat operations of Operation Overlord. 13,100 paratroopers of the US 82nd Airborne and 101st Airborne Divisions made night parachute drops early on D-Day June 6th 1944.
48 Unpainted Pieces



WWII BRITISH 8th ARMY

Commonly known as the "Desert Rats", the 8th Army figures are wearing their shorts and steel helmets in this 49 piece set. Included are mine detectors, machine gunners and riflemen.
49 Unpainted Pieces



WWII U.S. MARINES

This exciting 45 piece set of the famous 'leathernecks' in action has a full complement of marines with bazookas, flame throwers etc., as well as an inflated assault boat.
45 Unpainted Pieces



WWII BRITISH INFANTRY

Depicted here with an assortment of weapons, including the Bren Light Machine Gun and the Projector Infantry Anti-Tank (PIAT), these British Army troops are as they would have appeared across occupied Europe, fighting to liberate France, Holland and Belgium.
48 Unpainted Pieces

Airfix.com
and all good retail stockists



WWII TROOPS OPPOSING FORCES

- German Infantry
- British 8th Army
- Afrika Korps
- U.S. Marines
- U.S. Paratroopers
- British Infantry

A00705



A00709



A00711



A00716



A00751



A00763



1:72

Start as you mean to finish



Find out how rebel astronomer Galileo took on the Church from page 54

Welcome

"He is a bad general and the English are breakfast!" Napoleon is supposed to have proclaimed of the duke of Wellington's chances on the morning of Waterloo while eating off silver plates and studying his battle plans. In just a few hours he would be eating his words.

With hindsight, Napoleon's desire to come out of exile and reclaim his throne might seem like madness but you have to remember that he had beaten worse odds. He successfully rose from the rank of corporal to become ruler of France's first empire. He lost to Nelson at Trafalgar in 1805 but still went on to conquer most of Europe. His failed invasion of Russia in 1812 may have led to his downfall but it took the combined efforts of 13 nations - commanding an army of over 1 million

men - another two years to make him surrender. With that in mind, you can see why the so-called 'Nightmare of Europe' might have perhaps overestimated his abilities.

This issue, historian Charles J Esdaile (author of *Napoleon's Wars*) reveals how Boney escaped from the island of Elba, marched on Paris and returned to power for just over 100 days. Explore how the erstwhile emperor convinced the French to take him back and where he went wrong at Waterloo from page 30 onwards.



Jack Parsons
Editor

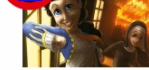
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Barbary Coast pirates
Discover the truth about the infamous corsairs that terrorised the high seas not to steal booty, but people - to feed the Ottoman Empire's slave trade.

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Trailblazing women
Jason Porath, creator of the popular Rejected Princesses blog and books, reveals some of the women too awesome or awful for the Disney movie treatment.

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'Project China'
Discover 16th-century Spain's secret plan to conquer Ming Dynasty China and whether or not the conquistadors could have pulled it off in this month's What If.

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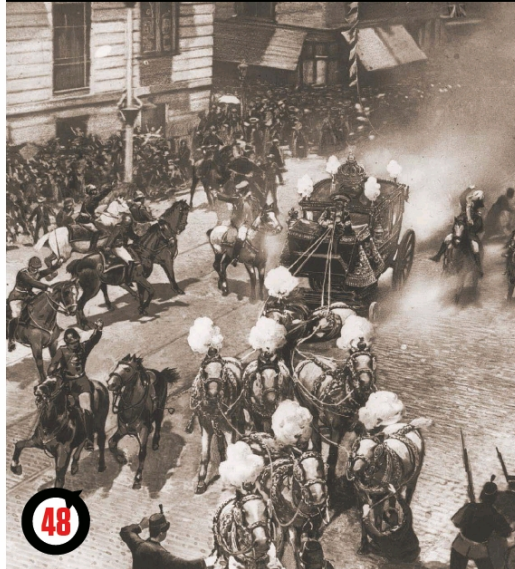
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The historic heroines that you won't ever see in a Disney movie

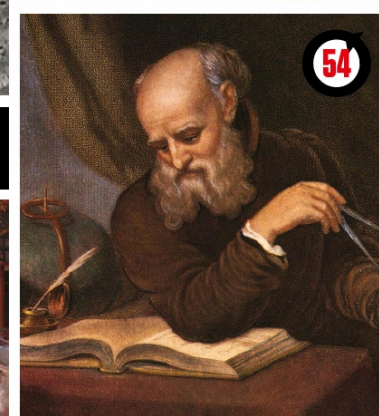
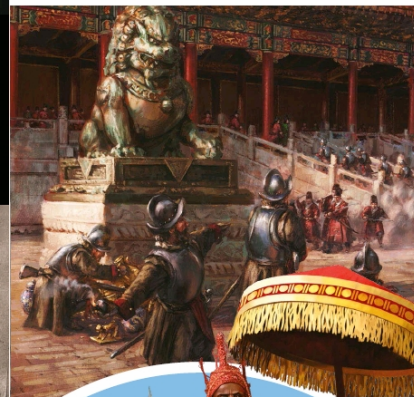
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How a WWII soldier dodged death at Dunkirk and on the Burma Railway



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Conquistadors could have carved up China if Elizabeth I hadn't stopped the Spanish Armada



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How accurate is *A United Kingdom*?



HISTORY IN COLOUR

REACH FOR THE STARS

The dazzling interior of a space shuttle's external tank could almost look like a glowing star were it not for the two NASA technicians inspecting it. A masterpiece of engineering from 33 years ago, this fuel tank would carry over 1,800,000 litres of propellant needed to get the shuttle off the ground before being jettisoned once the astronauts were approximately 113 kilometres (70 miles) above the Earth.

1985

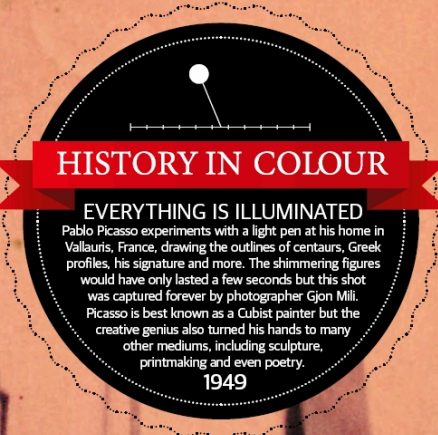


HISTORY IN PICTURES

ROYAL BEATLEMANIA

Police keep back a crowd of young fans outside Buckingham Palace as the Beatles receive their Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (MBE) medals from the Queen. But not everyone thought that they deserved the accolades and several previous honorees returned their decorations in protest. For example, Colonel Frederick Wagg sent back 12 medals he had earned fighting in both World Wars and resigned from the governing Labour Party in disgust.

1965



HISTORY IN COLOUR

EVERYTHING IS ILLUMINATED

Pablo Picasso experiments with a light pen at his home in Vallauris, France, drawing the outlines of centaurs, Greek profiles, his signature and more. The shimmering figures would have only lasted a few seconds but this shot was captured forever by photographer Gjon Mili. Picasso is best known as a Cubist painter but the creative genius also turned his hands to many other mediums, including sculpture, printmaking and even poetry.

1949



HISTORY IN PICTURES

AT THE DRIVE-IN

While people had enjoyed watching silent open-air movies before, it took an auto-parts salesman, Richard Hollingshead, to realise that Americans would enjoy watching them in the comfort of their cars. Hollingshead opened the first drive-in in 1933 but it didn't really take off until the advent of in-car speakers in the 1940s. At its peak in 1958, there were 4,063 drive-ins in the US and there are still 324 operating today.

1955



*"There was a laughing Devil in
his sneer, That raised emotions
both of rage and fear"*

The Corsair, Byron



THE BARBARY COAST

Explore North Africa's notorious den of pirates that
terrorised the high seas raiding ships and taking slaves



Explore a Barbary galley



Cross swords with a corsair



How to raid a ship



Pirate kings and queens

Written by David Crookes, Jessica Leggett, Jack Parsons



THE BARBARY COAST

Rise and fall of the Barbary Coast

Discover how the corsairs came to rule the waves - but only with the support of the Ottoman Empire

RALLY AGAINST THE RECONQUISTA

Ottoman sultan Bayezid II encourages Kemal Reis and other privateers to establish themselves in the Barbary ports, so they can support the Iberian Moors being forced out by Christian forces.



BARBAROSSA BEGINS

Oruç Barbarossa captures two papal warships off the coast of Tuscany, establishing the Barbary pirates as a serious threat and shocking Christendom.



Barbarossa means 'Redbeard' in Italian, establishing the trend of naming pirates after their facial hair long before Edward Teach became Blackbeard

CAPTURE OF ALGIERS

Oruç and his brother Hayreddin liberate Algiers from Spain, killing the local ruler Sâlim al-Tûmî for conspiring with the foreign power. Oruç rules Algiers until his death in 1518.



MAN THE BARRICADES

Genoese towers are built in Corsica between 1530 and 1620 to defend against pirates



Miguel de Cervantes, famed author of *Don Quixote*, was kidnapped in 1527 and kept as a slave in Algiers for five years



FRANCO-OTTOMAN ALLIANCE

King Francis I allies with Suleiman the Magnificent against Holy Roman Emperor Charles V. As well as raiding Italian and Spanish coasts in support of his cause, Hayreddin Barbarossa helps the French recapture Nice in 1543 and winters in Toulon.



1487

1504

1516

1530

1536

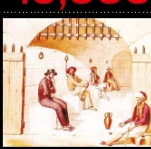
THE SLAVE'S LOT

Europeans are enslaved by Barbary pirates between 1530 and 1780

The number of captives converting to Islam between 1580 and 1680

2 black loaves are given to each slave to eat each day

1 change of clothes is given to each slave every year



WESTERN EUROPE ATTACKED

Partly due to the coastal populations of the Mediterranean being greatly depleted and the rise of the 'Salé Rovers' on the Atlantic, England, Ireland and even Iceland are targeted by Barbary slave hunters.



THE EXPULSION OF THE MORISCOS

Philip III decrees the thousands of descendants of the Iberian Moors are banished from Spain. Many settle in the Moroccan port of Salé and turn to privateering to get their revenge.



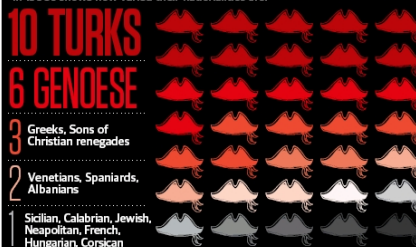
'TURNING TURK'

After making peace with the Spanish, James I of England bans privateering, prompting many English sailors to turn to outright piracy operating out of the Barbary ports.



RENEGADE PIRATES

A list of 35 privateer captains operating out of the Algiers in 1580s shows how varied their nationalities are.



TAKING BACK TUNIS

Uluç Ali and Sinan Pasha successfully recapture Tunis from the Spanish. Spain abandon all other attempts to conquer North Africa and called for a truce with the Ottomans in 1580.



BATTLE OF PREVEZA

Despite being heavily outgunned, Hayreddin defends Ottoman-occupied Actium from the combined forces of Venice, Spain, Portugal, the Papal States and the Knights of Malta assembled by Pope Paul III.



1650

1625

1609

1604

1580

1574

1538

ENGLAND STRIKES BACK

Oliver Cromwell's 'General at Sea' Robert Blake is sent to the Mediterranean to get compensation from the Barbary states. When Tunis refuses, Blake destroys their squadron off the coast of Porto Farina.



The British fleet fired over 50,000 rounds and 960 explosive mortars at Tunis in just 11 hours

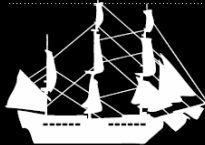
US PAYS PROTECTION

The amount the United States pays to Morocco and Algiers to 'protect' merchant ships and free prisoners between 1786 and 1794 is

130 US seamen are captured by Barbary pirates

\$1.25 MILLION

36 guns are on a warship 'gifted' to Algiers to delay payments in 1796



BARBARY WARS

Unwilling to pay further tributes, President Thomas Jefferson sends the US Navy to wage a 14-year war against Tunis, Algiers and Tripoli, which ultimately secures fair passage for American vessels.



BOMBARDMENT OF ALGIERS

An Anglo-Dutch fleet lays siege to Algiers until the Algerian leader signs a treaty agreeing to no longer enslave Europeans. 1,200 slaves are freed but the corsairs remain a menace.



BATTLE OF NAVARINO

The Ottoman Navy is crushed by the combined power of British, French and Russian fleets that are defending Greece during its war of independence from the Turkish empire.



ALGIERS CONQUERED

France invades Algiers before formally annexing it, ending 313 years of Ottoman rule in the territory. Slavery continues in the Ottoman Empire until 1890 but declines on the Barbary Coast.



1655

1786

1801

27 AUGUST 1816

1827

1830

BARBARY GALIOT

HIGH-SPEED SLAVE SHIP,
15TH-17TH CENTURY

Barbary corsairs used a variety of ships to prey on enemy vessels sailing across the Mediterranean. One of the most popular was the galiot, a small galley boat that was primarily propelled by oars but also had a sail. It could be rowed with great speed, which allowed the pirates to get in and out quickly during raids as well as easily chase down the lumbering merchant vessels that were weighed down with cargo. The galiot's small size also allowed the pirates to hide, swiftly breaking cover once lookouts located easy prey. However, they could only be used during the calm seas of summer as they sat quite low, making them susceptible to taking in water in rough seas.

Although the galiots were the corsairs' favourite ship, longer galleys with 25 pairs of oars were also used. These carried more guns and crew and so had greater fighting potential - for example, for when the privateers were enlisted in an Ottoman naval attack. Occasionally, however, the corsairs would use the smaller barca longas that, with one rower per oar, proved particularly useful for scouting and short-range raiding.

One of the most iconic Barbary ships was the three-masted xebec, which was powered mainly by sail rather than rowing. It had as many as 16 guns and it could sail close hauled to the wind, making the ship effective when in pursuit. Carrying three lateen-rigged sails, however, it was mostly used for trading.

Less versatile were the polaccas, which tended to carry cargo. Meanwhile, the felucca was more of a sailing vessel. Corsairs particularly liked the single-masted tartans that often fooled enemies into thinking they were fishing vessels. But just the sheer fact that the Barbary pirates had so many different kinds of ships showed how well equipped they were.

Great numbers

As a hugely popular ship, the Barbary pirates had many galiots. According to sources, as many as 50 galiots - and several other larger galleys - were based in Algiers during the mid-16th century. From there, they would travel towards the Balearic Islands or the Strait of Gibraltar in search of vessels to prey on.

Serious firepower

A large gun was mounted at the centre of the ship's bow and it would have fired cannon balls of between 5.4 and 11.8 kilograms. These would typically have been blasted at the hull of the enemy crafts, causing extreme damage. The pirates would then be in a position to seize the ship, its crew and any loot on board.

Swivel shooters

The Barbary galiots had a platform at their bow on which swivel-mounted shooters were placed. Ranging from two to ten per ship and firing either 450-gram balls or bags of shrapnel, these guns were for targeting enemy personnel on the deck of an opposing ship, clearing the way for the pirates to board.

Keeping it clean

The pirates would ensure their vessel was well maintained by clearing the lower hulls of barnacles and weeds and coating the body of the ship with a wax. This allowed it to better reach speeds of up to 15 kilometres an hour under sail and up to 22.5 kilometres an hour rowing.

Single mast

The Barbary galiots had a single mast and these were fitted at an angle with a large triangular sail set on a long yard. The benefit of such a lateen rig was to allow the craft to sail at speed close into the wind but they were never used in combat. Nearly all vessels were lateen rigged after 1500 as Ottoman shipbuilders adopted the design and construction methods of the Portuguese.

Slave-powered rowing

To operate the galiot, the 'alla scaloccio' system was used. It meant that two rowers were placed on each oar and it came with the benefit of not needing to find lots of well-trained oarsmen. That's because only the inbound oarsmen - the ones who guided the stroke - needed to be skilful. The others, who would have been slaves, only had to be strong and provide extra power.

Short length

There are no records of the exact size of a Barbary galiot but Venetian shipbuilding sources suggest they were three metres wide and 27 metres in length, including the spur at the bow. As such, they were one-and-a-half times as long as a British double-decker bus (and roughly the same width). The vertical distance between the waterline and the bottom of the hull - the draft of the ship - was two metres.

Vital supplies

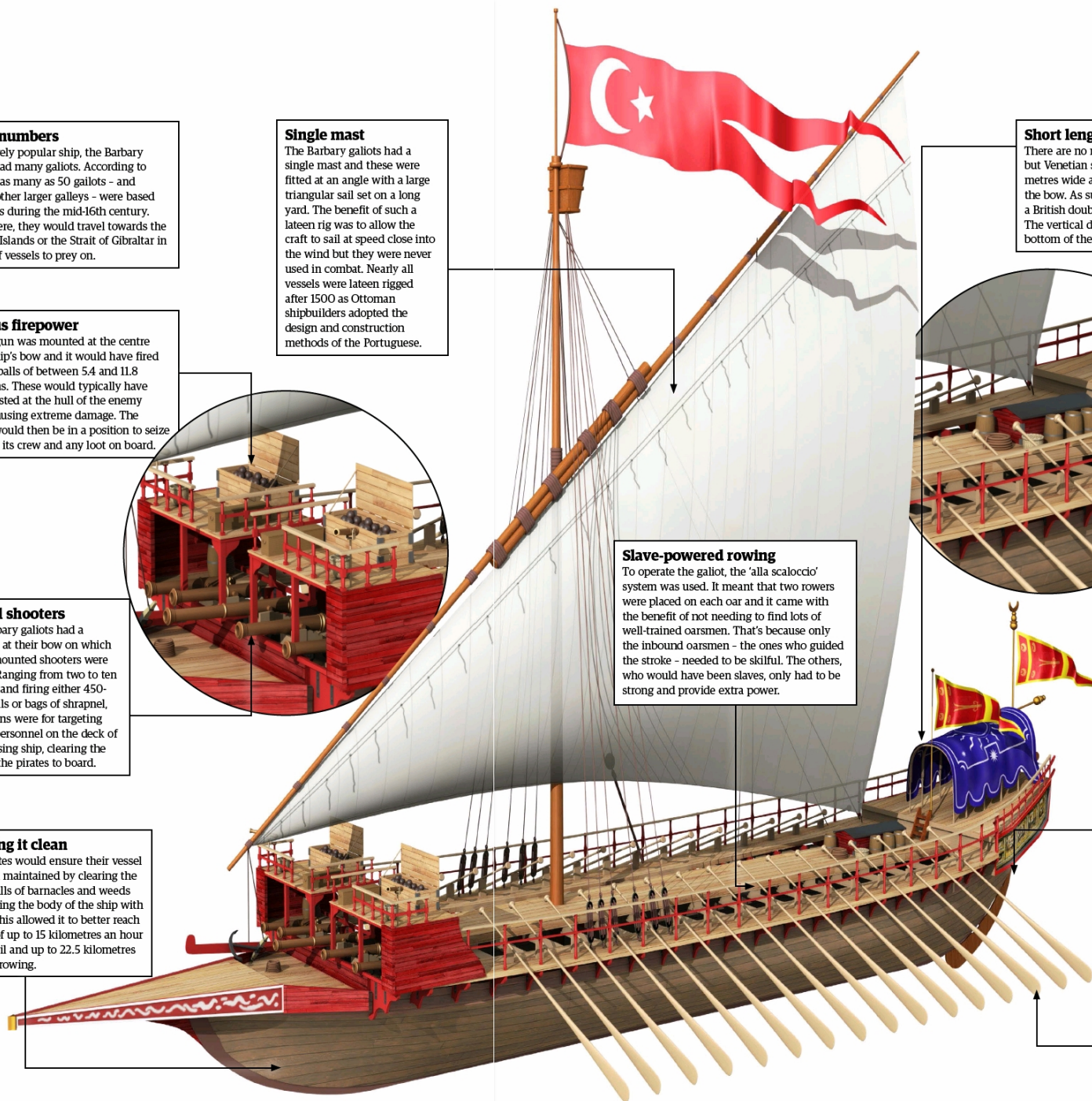
Given that the pirates would have been at sea for weeks, it was important that there were sufficient supplies on board, especially given the scorching hot weather of the Mediterranean. About 1,800 gallons of water were taken on board and this would have lasted a crew of around 140 roughly 20 days. The pirates would have bases where they could gain extra refreshments, however.

Sitting low

The distance from the waterline to the upper deck of the ship was short, which meant the galiot was able to sit low in the water. This reduced the drag and weight of the craft, allowing it to move more quickly through the sea, but it also meant that Barbary galiots were not suitable for lengthy voyages in open water and the hull was rather cramped.

Numerous oars

Galiots were historically small galley ships - the type that are propelled mainly by rowing. To that end, they needed to have sets of oars and this particular type of ship had between 16 and 20 pairs (although typically they had 18), all neatly lined up on both sides of the boat.



THE Anatomy of

A BARBARY CORSAIR

NORTH AFRICA,
15TH-19TH CENTURY

CURVED SWORD

CUTTING DOWN THE ENEMY

The most popular sword used by the Barbary corsairs was a type of scimitar called a kilij - a short sword with an acutely curved, single-edged blade. Its flared tip was called a yalman and significantly added to the sword's cutting power. The kilij also had a distinct T-shaped cross-section to the back of the blade, which added to the weapon's stiffness without adding unwanted weight.

HIDDEN ARMOUR

JUST IN CASE

Depending on their rank or perhaps how cautious they were, a corsair might also have worn protective armour. This would have most likely been a composite of mail with small plates covering the torso, which was frequently worn either under or sandwiched between layers of fabric.

OTTOMAN DRESS

TRADITIONAL CLOTHING

The corsairs had no formal uniform but would have worn the everyday apparel of the Maghreb, such as a collarless vest or jacket, possibly with baggy salwar trousers. Due to the nature of their work, they would have likely tucked a weapon in their kusak sash and worn sturdy basmak boots rather than Ottoman slippers.



TURBAN

MARK OF DISTINCTION

The corsairs wore turbans not only as a symbol of their religion, but also as a mark of distinction from the Christians. In particular, European renegades wore white turbans that indicated they were Muslim converts.

FLANGED MACE

A BLOODY BUSINESS

Risking their lives every day, Barbary corsairs could never have too many weapons. In addition to a sword and pistol, popular choices included daggers, axes and even a flanged mace, which was a type of bludgeon that was particularly useful against armoured enemies.

FLINTLOCK PISTOL

TAKE THE SHOT

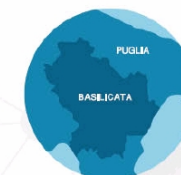
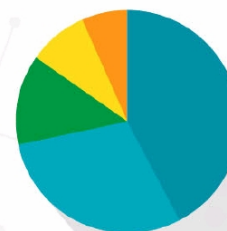
An American eyewitness of an Algerian attack on the merchant ship described how the corsairs boarded the ship with "sabers grasped between their teeth and their loaded pistols in their belts". This was most likely a flintlock, procured at the bustling markets of Tangiers. This pistol, which was also associated with English highwaymen, proved particularly handy when it came to boarding and taking over ships.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE

LICENSED TO STEAL

The corsairs were issued a license to plunder from the coastal states - on the condition they split their profits with the local bey, dey or pasha, of course. However, the corsairs didn't always get on with their overlords - in 1624, a group of captains proclaimed Salé a republic independent of the Moroccan sultanate.

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How to RAID A SHIP

BARBARY BATTLE TACTICS TO MAKE YOUR FORTUNE
MEDITERRANEAN, 15TH-19TH CENTURY

Barbary pirates were principally slave hunters and their aim was to kidnap people they could sell into the Ottoman slave trade. This gave them two targets: the coastline of Christian countries and unsuspecting ships.

But as the 16th century wore on, coastal towns around the Mediterranean became less populated as villagers moved inland or highly fortified their homes to better defend themselves. This sent some pirates further afield, raiding Britain, Ireland and even Iceland. However, most privateers focused on raiding vessels at sea, where scarcity of victims was less of a problem as shipping continued to be big business.

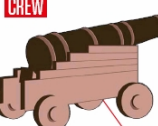
WHAT YOU'LL NEED...



GALLOT



CREW



CANNONS



SHACKLES

Easy targets

While the corsairs preferred to target merchant ships with large crews and lots of booty on board, they were not above grabbing lone fishermen.

Fighting for freedom

Many attacked ships surrendered quickly but some fought back, hoping that the pirates would go in search of easier prey.

Mixed crew

A Barbary ship would be staffed by a combination of experienced seamen, janissaries supplied from a sultan's new army and slaves to pull the oars.

Fire power

Galios offered a speed advantage over lumbering merchant ships but they could only carry limited cannon power. Fortunately, janissaries came armed with muskets that worked just as well when fighting in close quarters.

Seasonal work

During the winter months the Mediterranean is prone to storms, so Barbary corsairs only operated from mid-spring to late autumn, usually making their first sorties in April.



01 HEAD TO THE HUNTING GROUNDS

The best place to find a merchant ship is on a trade route between the Mediterranean's bustling ports. However, rather than target a vessel in open water, find a bottleneck where it can't easily escape, such as the Strait of Messina. Tuck your galiot behind a headland so you can ambush the ship.



02 KEEP A LOOKOUT

Once you're in position, you just need to wait for a potential victim to appear. This could be done by either by posting a lookout to watch the horizon from the masthead or else from the high ground of an island lair. In 1504, when the Barbossa brothers captured two papal galleys, they posted lookouts on the island of Elba.

How not to... hunt as a lone wolf

It was only when they were summoned to join an Ottoman fleet for a specific campaign that larger numbers of Barbary vessels worked together - they preferred to work alone or in small squadrons. This was mostly a case of logistics as larger crews needed more food and water.

Oared ships also had to put in somewhere safe at night. The Mediterranean coast offered numerous bays where streams or

springs could be found but most inlets couldn't conceal a large group and it took a dangerously long time to fill all the barrels from a single water source.

The same was true of provisions - while the crew of a single galiot could put in somewhere and kill a few goats, this was not an option for a larger force. This limited how far the pirates could range and therefore their opportunities to plunder.



03 FIRE A WARNING SHOT

Once a target is in your sights, you could fly false colours and dress as Christian seamen to get close to it. But once you're in range the aim is to intimidate your victim so that they surrender without putting up a fight. Fire a warning shot across their decks with your guns while your crew yell abuse and bang drums.



05 SORT THE PLUNDER

Once you control the vessel, search it for any valuables that might be on board or beat the crew to tell you where they've hidden it. However, don't fatally injure them - the passengers and crew are your main prize. The wealthiest will be ransomed back to their families for a high sum, while poor seamen will be sold into slavery.



04 BOARD THE SHIP

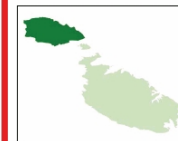
Once you're alongside the vessel, send over a boarding party. Your janissaries should go across first as few European crews will be willing to battle these elite Ottoman soldiers hand-to-hand. While English and Dutch sailors are known to put up more of a fight, most boarding actions end quickly with the defenders throwing down their weapons.



06 CELEBRATE YOUR VICTORY

Depending on the value or size of your loot, you can either scuttle the captured ship or sail it back to port. In either case, make sure your return to Algiers or Tripoli is a triumphant affair. It's tradition for successful raiders to fly flags and fire guns in celebration when they return home, both to show off and to let slave traders know you're looking to sell!

4 FAMOUS... COASTAL ATTACKS



INVASION OF GOZO

JULY 1551

Turgut Reis attacked Malta and Gozo, temporarily seizing the latter for himself before leaving with most of its population.



CORSICA

JUNE 1501

Napoleon's birthplace was often raided by Barbary slavers like Kemal Reis while his navigator nephew charted the isle's coastline.



ICELANDIC RAID

20 JUNE - 19 JULY 1627

A series of raids led by European renegados including Murat Reis abducted over 400 Icelanders to sell in Salé and Algiers.



SACK OF BALTIMORE

20 JUNE 1631

Reis seized 107 men, women and children from a village in County Cork. Only two or three ever returned to Ireland.

Day in the life

US MARINE

THE CORPS THAT DEFINED THE BARBARY WARS DERNA, TRIPOLI, 27 APRIL 1805

The US went to war with the Barbary States from 1801 to 1805 and then again in 1815 in an effort to curtail corsair attacks. The Battle of Derna was the decisive skirmish of the First Barbary War, led by Lieutenants William Eaton and Presley O'Bannon. Tasked with restoring a deposed pasha of Tripoli, Hamet Caramelli, in the belief that he would be more favourable to American ships, they trekked from Alexandria, Egypt, to Derna, in modern-day Libya. Though their success was undermined when the US signed a peace treaty that saw Caramelli removed again in return for hostages, the battle led to the line 'To the shores of Tripoli' being added to the Marine's Hymn as well as the adoption of the Mameluke sword by the Corps.

SETTING UP

On the day of the battle, the US warships Argus, Nautilus and Hornet all converged ready to launch the attack on Derna, with Nautilus anchoring close to the shore. Eaton had led his troops 800 kilometres through the North African desert to Derna, only to be refused entry by the governor - who tauntingly challenged Eaton to attack.

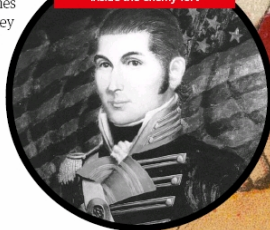
COMMUNICATION

The ships opened up communication with each other to discuss their plan of attack. The night before, Eaton told Nautilus that he wanted to launch an offensive as soon as possible once the field artillery had been landed. Cover provided by the ships would be crucial to the success of the assault as the US Marines were outnumbered.

LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS

Eaton sent a message to the Marines on board Argus requesting that they land their field artillery as soon as possible, so that he could begin his march on the city. However, Argus struggled to land its guns on the shore and in the end only one arrived. To avoid wasting time, Eaton decided to continue with the assault regardless.

Presley O'Bannon, the lieutenant who raised the American flag inside the enemy fort



The Barbary Wars lasted 14 years

BEGIN THE ATTACK

Once the field artillery was ready, Eaton ordered the start of the land offensive.

In the meantime, the three ships took up their positions along the shore and began to fire heavily on the city. While all of this was happening, enemy fire rained down from the fort for around an hour, making it difficult for the United States to advance.

TAKING CONTROL

Using the ship's heavy fire as cover, the American soldiers bravely charged towards the Berber fort. As the enemy fled in terror, members of Argus, including Lieutenant O'Bannon, ran inside and removed the native flag. In its place, they raised the Stars and Stripes and took control of the fort's guns, which were primed and ready for immediate use thanks to the vacated Berbers who had been firing them beforehand.

SECURE THE VICTORY

The US forces managed to successfully capture both the city and the fort. They then sent in boats to deliver ammunition for the soldiers as well as to recover those Marines who were wounded and needed medical attention. Eaton left orders with the fort and he personally made his way to Derna in order to make sure that everything was organised, and that security had been arranged for the evening.

A WAR HERO

After ensuring that the city was secure, Eaton returned to one of the ships in order to receive medical attention himself. During the battle, he had been seriously injured when he was hit in the left wrist by a musket ball while leading the charge. Nevertheless, Eaton survived and he returned to his home country a hero along with O'Bannon and the rest of the troops.

REST AND RECUPERATE

With Derna firmly under the control of the United States after two hours of bloody fighting, it was time for the troops to rest and savour their victory. While the American forces ultimately suffered minimal losses, approximately 800 Tripolitans were killed by the end of the skirmish and 1,200 were wounded, with many more forcibly driven out of the city.



Lieutenant William Eaton led the charge during the battle

Hall of Fame PIRATE KINGS AND QUEENS

The notorious corsairs who ruled the Barbary Coast's seas



Oruç is one of the most legendary Barbary pirates

ORUÇ BARBAROSSA

OTTOMAN C.1474-1518

Along with his younger brother Hayreddin, Oruç is one of the founding fathers of the Barbary Coast. They captured the city of Algiers in 1516, executed its ruler, Selim bei Tumi, and expelled the Spanish. While the brothers received support from the Ottomans, after becoming the new governor of Algiers, Oruç was determined to remain independent of the empire. The following year, he destroyed a Spanish fleet of 7000 soldiers but failed to capture the Spanish tributary cities in North Africa. He was killed at the hands of the Spanish in 1518 while fighting them at the city of Tlemcen.

HAYREDDIN BARBAROSSA

OTTOMAN C.1478-1546

Renowned as a military genius, Hayreddin became the governor of Algiers following the death of his brother. Unlike Oruç, who sought some independence from the Ottomans, Hayreddin forged a stronger relationship with the sultanate in return for men and equipment. With this support, he built a powerful fleet to fight against Christian Europe, conducting a series of raids along the Mediterranean coast. Some of Hayreddin's most famous naval victories include the capture of El Peñón, a Spanish fortress, in 1529 and the conquest of Tunis in 1534, which he achieved while leading the Ottoman fleet of Suleiman the Magnificent.



Barbarossa is also known by his Arabic name, Khair ad-Din



Sayyida was ultimately overthrown by her son-in-law

SAYYIDA AL-HURRA

MOROCCAN 1485-1561

Nobody had more reason to despise the Spanish than the pirate queen of the Barbary Coast, Sayyida al-Hurra. Originally from Granada, Sayyida and her family were forced to flee following the Reconquista in 1492. She married the governor of Tétouan, a family friend, and through him assumed a position of power. After his death, Sayyida inherited the position of governor and allied with Oruç Barbarossa to attack the Spanish and Portuguese - together they controlled the Mediterranean Sea. Sayyida remarried to the sultan of Morocco, Ahmed al-Wattasi, but famously refused to travel to Fez to marry him, instead insisting he come to her.

Sayyida was last woman in Islamic history to legitimately hold the title of 'al-Hurra', or queen



Dragut's body is buried in the mosque he founded

DRAGUT

OTTOMAN 1485-1566

A skilled sailor, Dragut joined Hayreddin Barbarossa's fleet and quickly became his right-hand man. As chief lieutenant, he took part in a number of raids and successfully captured a series of coastal fortresses. After Barbarossa's death, Dragut succeeded him as the leader of the Ottoman fleet and as the governor of Algiers two years later. A force to be reckoned with, he secured an array of naval victories, particularly the seizure of Tripoli - here he built the Dragut Mosque, which is still used today. He died during the failed Siege of Malta, wounded by splinters caused by a cannonball.



Uluç followed in the footsteps of Dragut

ULUÇ ALI REIS

SPANISH C.1519-87

Uluç started his piracy career as a galley slave, captured by the Barbary pirates of Hayreddin Barbarossa. He converted to Islam and joined Dragut's fleet, taking part in a number of naval battles. Present at the Siege of Malta, Uluç succeeded Dragut as the governor of Tripoli after the latter's death and proved to be a capable commander. He became governor of Algiers in 1568 and three years later he was named the Grand Admiral of the Ottoman fleet.



Siemen was also known as 'Simon the Dancer'

SIEMEN DANZIGER

DUTCH C.1579-C.1615

A Dutch privateer like Murat Reis the Younger, Siemen also chose the life of a Barbary pirate. His motives remain a mystery but he quickly became one of the most famous renegades to join the Barbary Coast, notably forming a partnership with John Ward. He eventually abandoned piracy and settled in Marseilles, France, where he helped the French work against his former comrades. He is said to have been captured in Tunis and beheaded.

MURAT REIS THE YOUNGER

DUTCH C.1570-C.1641

Born Jan Janszoon van Haarlem, Murat was a Dutch privateer from Haarlem who led his ship to the North African coast, settling in Salé, Morocco. While still bearing the Dutch flag, he began attacking other ships, namely those belonging to the Spanish. Murat became a slave after he was captured by the Barbary pirates, during which time he converted to Islam. Becoming a Barbary pirate himself, he plundered vessels across the Mediterranean and lived a wealthy life.

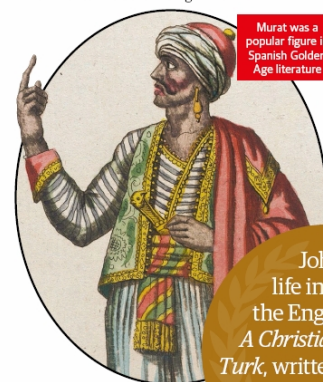


'Reis' was an Ottoman military rank akin to a naval captain

MURAT REIS THE ELDER

ALBANIAN 1534-1609

Murat Reis was one of the greatest captains of the Ottoman Navy. Having played a role in the fleets of Hayreddin Barbarossa and Dragut, he made a name for himself after he captured two treasure-filled papal galleys along the shores of Tuscany in 1580. Five years later, he led the first expedition by Barbary pirates into the Atlantic Ocean, where he successfully seized some of the Canary Islands - and he achieved the same again in 1587.



Murat was a popular figure in Spanish Golden Age literature

John's life inspired the English play *A Christian Turned Turk*, written by Robert Daborne and based on his conversion to Islam.



John had a number of aliases, including 'Birdy' and 'Sparrow'

JOHN WARD

ENGLISH C.1553-1622

Captain John Ward was one of the most notorious pirates to have ever lived. Originally a fisherman, he became a privateer for Queen Elizabeth I, raiding Spanish ships. Losing his privateer's license after the accession of King James I, John briefly returned to the fishing industry before he turning to a life of piracy. Acquiring a ship with his men, many of whom were English or Dutch, he set up a base in Tunis and proceeded to capture and plunder merchant ships. He eventually converted from Christianity to Islam, adopting the name 'Yusuf Rais', and he eventually enjoyed a wealthy retirement.



Mulai Ahmed er Raisuni was not a typical Barbary pirate

MULAI AHMED ER RAISUNI

MOROCCAN 1871-1825

Despite the fact that piracy along the Barbary Coast ended during the 19th century, Mulai Ahmed er Raisuni is often referred to as 'the last corsair'. Embracing banditry, he was both loved and feared in Morocco as he opposed the government and the sultan. He conducted a series of kidnappings, including the abduction of Walter Harris, a correspondent for *The Times* newspaper, and maintained a fleet of boats for piracy activities at sea.

HISTORY ANSWERS

What does
'Barbary' mean?

Hannah Diehlhof

While some people think that 'Barbary' refers to barbarians, it actually comes from the name of the Berber people. Imperial Berber dynasties like the Almoravids and Almohads ruled North Africa and much of Spain throughout the Middle Ages. However, after the confederation of Berber tribes splintered into separate nations, they increasingly relied on Ottoman support to fend off European attacks. Unfortunately for the Berbers, this assistance came at a cost and in just a few decades, the Ottoman Empire had annexed all of their states except Morocco.

Tariq ibn Ziyad, who conquered much of 8th-century Spain, may have been a Berber

How did
Barbary pirates
divide up their
spoils? **Megan Lowry**

There were strict rules regarding how the profits from the sale of slaves, ships and cargo were distributed. Up to one-fifth went to the state ruler, then fees were paid to custom officials, slave merchants and the upkeep of the port the pirates used. Half of what was left was then paid to the shipowner (who may well be the ruler again). The remainder was divided into several hundred shares, with 40 going to the captain, 10-20 to each officer, 3 per sailor and 1.5 per janissary. Bonuses were also paid to the sailor who first spotted the prize.

Did the
pirates only trade in
white slaves?

James Luca

Ottoman slaves captured by Barbary corsairs could be black, brown or white. Catholic, Protestant, Orthodox, Jewish or Muslim. In fact, Turks were prized as oarsmen and rarely ransomed. There are many accounts of Christian captives converting to Islam but this did not mean they were freed - only that they might be trusted to manage other slaves. Many women held in harems would convert so they could stay with their children, who were raised as Muslims.

**A slave market in
Cairo circa 1848**



© Getty Images


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Exploring Crete



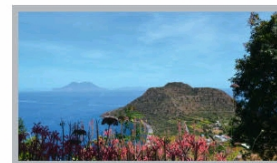
Cruising to the Cyclades



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"Napoleon built an empire that covered vast swathes of the continent"



Charles J Esdaile is a professor in history at the University of Liverpool. He is the author of numerous books on the Napoleonic

Wars including *Napoleon, France and Waterloo: The Eagle Rejected* and *Napoleon's Wars: An International History, 1803-1815*.

NAPOLÉON'S LAST STAND

How one reckless gamble ended an emperor's career

Written by Charles J Esdaile

Napoleon Bonaparte was a man whose vaulting ambition saw him conquer Europe - but it would also be his downfall. In just over 100 days, the 'Nightmare of Europe' would escape from prison with a small band of brothers and reconquer France, prompting all the great powers of Europe to unite together to bring him down once and for all.

Lasting from 1804 to 1814, Napoleon built an empire that covered vast swathes of the continent and by 1810 it was easier to list the

regions he didn't dominate - Portugal, Sicily, Sardinia, and the British, Russian and Ottoman Empires. This was not bad for the 'Petit Corporal' from Corsica, who only secured a commission in the French artillery in 1787.

Napoleon enjoyed a series of accelerated promotions as a result of the French Revolution. By early 1796, he was the commander of all the French forces manning the Italian frontier. Gifted with extraordinary tactical genius, he won a string of great victories that knocked both Austria and Piedmont out of the War of the

First Coalition. Similar success in Cairo fighting the Battle of the Pyramids in 1798, during a doomed attempt to conquer Egypt, cemented his reputation as one of Revolutionary France's greatest heroes.

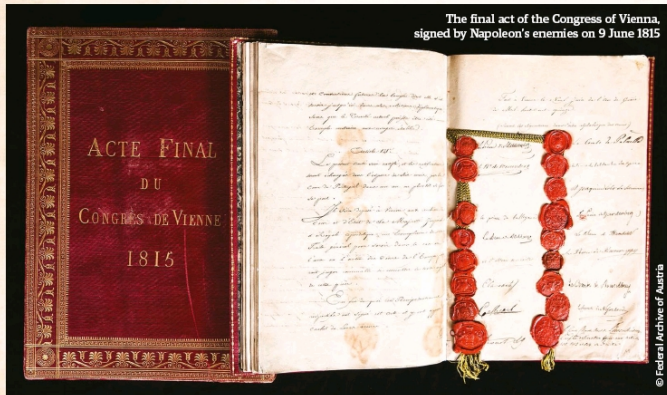
However, while Napoleon was enjoying these personal victories, France as a whole was struggling.





Napoleon escapes exile on the island of Elba

"With his back to the wall, Napoleon fought bravely but the odds against him were just too high"



The final act of the Congress of Vienna, signed by Napoleon's enemies on 9 June 1815

© Federal Archive of Austria

While he was off gallivanting in Egypt, Austria and Russia had rejoined the War of the Second Coalition and had retaken Italy. It was clear that France needed a much stronger government than the one that had emerged from the bloody chaos of the Revolution.

Seeking to fill the void, Napoleon, an extremely determined young man who had been dreaming of taking power for some time, set himself up as a de facto dictator in November 1799. Over the next year, he remodelled France and forced all of its opponents to make peace. Though hostilities with Britain would resume in 1803, the next year he was rewarded by the tame political system he had created with the title of Emperor of the French.

Over the next few years, the French armies secured unprecedented success and the result was that France remained complicit. With their social position both respected and protected by the state, the propertied classes had no reason to oppose Napoleon, while the populace as a whole were mollified by a measure of economic prosperity. Additionally, though levels of conscription were still relatively heavy, they were not unreasonable. By 1807, the French Empire was greatly expanded. This included areas annexed to France and ruled directly from Paris, and satellite states that were often ruled by one of the emperor's many relatives, such as Spain under his brother Joseph.

However, victory turned Napoleon's head and he increasingly began to overreach himself. As his desire for power and glory increased, so did his demands for men and money. Meanwhile, all the powers of Europe were driven into a position in which they had no option but to fight him. The wars dragged on interminably with little sign of any sort of lasting peace. The elites and populace alike became increasingly unhappy with their emperor - and all the more so when a series of mistakes on the part of Napoleon precipitated a general economic crisis, which had terrible effects on living standards for ordinary people.

Beaten first in Russia in 1812 and then in Germany in 1813, the French were facing invasion by 1814. With his back to the wall, Napoleon fought bravely but the odds against him were just too high, while the system of conscription broke down in the face of a wholesale refusal to obey the regime or to implement its policies. Within weeks, it was all over. Napoleon was finally forced to surrender to his enemies on 6 April 1814.

In theory, this should have been the end of the story. Napoleon was exiled to the tiny

Mediterranean island of Elba and given a position as its king, and the Bourbon monarchy was restored to France in the person of Louis XVIII. Meanwhile, the powers of Europe met in a great congress at Vienna in which they attempted not to turn the clock back to 1789, but to build a new system of international relations instead. On the one hand, it would ensure that France couldn't embark on any more acts of aggression and, on the other, it would make sure that Europe didn't slide back into the endless dynastic conflicts that had plagued the 18th century.

Watching from afar, the fallen Napoleon was not treated especially harshly in the wake of his defeat. With him went roughly 600 soldiers drawn from the Imperial Guard, and he was given complete freedom of movement as he was left almost entirely unsupervised on the peaceful and picturesque Italian island.

For Napoleon, however, confinement to so small a sphere was torture. The French government also afforded him a legitimate grievance by failing to pay the pension that had been granted to him. Many stories reached him of massive public discontent with the new regime so at the end of

February 1815, he decided to return to France and restore himself to glory.

His prison break was somewhat anticlimactic as there was not a single guard to stop him. Though there was normally a British agent - Sir Neil Campbell - assigned to watch over Napoleon, he had left Elba to travel to Florence on 16 February, allegedly to visit his mistress. Ten days later, Napoleon set sail on board a small brig called L'Inconstant along with his imperial guard.

There followed the so-called 'flight of the eagle'. According to legend, the erstwhile emperor returned to a hero's welcome in France but the truth may actually have been a little less romantic. When he landed on the French coast on 1 March, he was initially denied entrance to the town of Antibes and could supposedly only find two people to volunteer for his cause.

However, in a somewhat famous episode where Napoleon dared a unit blocking the road to fire upon him, the garrison of Grenoble actually decided to join him on 5 March. The city of Lyons - a place that the emperor had always favoured when in power - also welcomed his arrival with great excitement just five days later.



Napoleon inspires his men before the Battle of Waterloo

A set of bagpipes used by the Cameron Highlanders Regiment that fought at Waterloo



"Confinement to so small a sphere was torture"

© The Highlander's Museum, Photography Relic Imaging Ltd

HIGHLIGHTS OF NAPOLEON'S RETURN TO POWER

Day 1 20 MARCH 1815

The eagle has landed

As Napoleon returns to Paris, Louis XVIII flees to Lille. While Napoleon is greeted at the Tuileries Palace by a large crowd of officers, the streets are semi-deserted.



Day 6 25 MARCH 1815

Europe goes to war

The Congress of Vienna unanimously brands Napoleon an outlaw, with Russia, Prussia, Austria and Britain committing to defeat him for good.



Day 10 29 MARCH 1815

The abolition of slavery

In an effort to appear revolutionary, Napoleon appoints the Jacobin radical Lazare Carnot as his minister of the interior and decrees the abolition of slavery.



Day 12 31 MARCH 1815

Louis in exile

Finding the garrison in Lille hostile to the royal cause, Louis XVIII leaves France with a loyal band of followers and creates a court in exile in Ghent, Belgium.



Day 63 20 MAY 1815

Murat's failed power grab

Joachim Murat, king of Naples and Napoleon's brother-in-law, declares war on Austria but is defeated, prompting him to flee to Corsica.



VIVE LA CONSTITUTION!

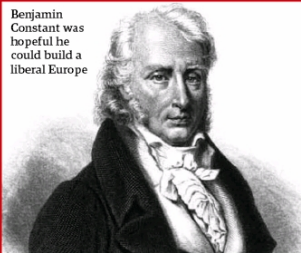
To win French support, Napoleon promised revolutionary reform

In early 1814, as the empire was crumbling, French political writer Benjamin Constant published a scathing attack on Napoleon, painting him as a tyrant obsessed with conquest. A year later, however, Constant could not resist the returned emperor's invitation to draw up a new French constitution. Napoleon knew that to rally support after returning from Elba, he needed to embrace France's revolutionary heritage and pose as the defender of liberty against the Bourbons.

Constant's document, although described as a simple 'addition' to the earlier imperial French constitutions, was more like a suggestion for a liberal constitutional monarchy. Called the Acte Additionel, it gave real power to the House of Representatives, which was elected by the 'electoral colleges' of the empire and allowed for the extension of franchise to a greater number of people. It also explicitly guaranteed both press and religious freedom, as well as ruling out any reversal of revolutionary land reform.

Napoleon signed the Acte Additionel on 22 April 1815 and submitted the constitution, quickly

nicknamed 'La Benjamine' after its author, to a plebiscite. Scarcely 20 per cent of those eligible actually voted but it still received 1.3 million 'yes' votes versus 5,000 negative votes, so the government hailed its approval on 1 June. The re-restored Louis XVIII abolished it after the Battle of Waterloo but it went on to serve as an inspiration for later French constitutions, especially that of 1830.



Benjamin Constant was hopeful he could build a liberal Europe

"Napoleon claimed to be a champion of the Revolution against reaction and he proposed a new liberal constitution"

Most astonishingly of all, despite having promised Louis XVIII to bring Napoleon back to Paris in an iron cage, Marshal Ney pledged his allegiance to Napoleon along with his 6,000 men when they finally met at Auxerre on 18 March. Taken against his better judgement, it was a decision that was to eventually cost Ney his life.

Having received reports of Napoleon's growing support, Louis XVIII fled Paris on 20 March. Napoleon arrived just a few hours later, taking up residence at the Tuileries Palace. After being greeted by a large crowd of officers, they all celebrated well into the night.

Napoleon's ability to win over the army was to be expected. Some of the soldiers had been driven to fury by the restored monarchy's treatment of the military. Many officers who had once fought

bravely for Napoleon had been placed on half-pay by the Bourbons in favour of aristocrats who had fled abroad in the wake of the Revolution - and they had fought for France's enemies to boot. However, regaining power over everyone else would prove to be trickier.

Popular responses to Napoleon's grandiose return were muted. While some areas that had done well out of Napoleon felt a measure of enthusiasm as they had particular reason to resent the Bourbons or had suffered the full brunt of the invasions of 1814, news of his return elsewhere was greeted with a mixture of fear, horror and armed resistance.

In an attempt to win over public opinion, Napoleon claimed to be a champion of the Revolution against reaction and he proposed

a new liberal constitution but his every effort fell on deaf ears and was often badly bungled. For example, the so-called ceremony of the Champ de Mai, held on 1 June 1815, was supposed to be a great celebration of the new constitution.

It was bad enough that this was clearly an attempt to restore the institutions of the empire in a more liberal guise. To add insult to injury, the very name 'Champ de Mai' was unfortunate as it originally referred to assemblies of nobles called by Charlemagne and other Medieval monarchs when they wished to pacify subjects who might otherwise have become rebellious.

It's hard to tell what Napoleon thought he could achieve by returning to France. Take power in Paris though he might, there was really no realistic chance of the European powers actually leaving him in peace. They had all made effort after effort to come to terms with him prior to 1814 only to find that his demands were just too outrageous or that their friendships with the emperor brought little or nothing in the way of benefits for them. Napoleon was quickly declared an international

outlaw and as a result, preparations were afoot for a massive invasion of France within a matter of days. Against such odds, there was little chance of Napoleon achieving victory.

It was quite clear that however unpopular Louis XVIII had been, the French people were in no mood to see the return of a ruler who was associated with both economic disaster and war without end. With conscription out of the question, Napoleon was forced to rely on the services of the much-reduced army that had been in his service when he escaped from Elba.

The only men who were mobilised for military service were the militia, the National Guard and the many thousands of soldiers who had been sent home in 1814 on the understanding that they could be called up once again if they were needed in the event of war. Even so, this should have given the emperor an army of approximately 500,000 men but in the event, fewer than one-third of those who should have put in an appearance seemed to turn up. Thus, Napoleon was left with a force of only half that number.



Panoramic scene of Waterloo that can be found next to the Lion's Mound memorial at the battlefield site in Belgium

Napoleon's Last Stand



A marching drum carried by the French 105th Infantry Regiment



Wellington and Blücher forge their 'Belle Alliance'

Waterloo - Rencontre de Wellington et Blücher devant la Belle-Alliance, se sauvant mutuellement vainqueurs.

Day 90 15 JUNE 1815

The emperor strikes back

Napoleon goes on the offensive with roughly 200,000 men. He plans to drive a wedge between the British and Prussians to defeat them separately.



Day 91 16 JUNE 1815

Blücher takes a beating

Napoleon defeats, but does not destroy, Prussian field marshal Blücher at Ligny, allowing him to escape to Wavre where he agrees to support Wellington at Waterloo.



Day 93 18 JUNE 1815

Battle of Waterloo

Despite bad weather and facing both Britain and Prussia, Napoleon makes great gains during his last ever battle before ultimately being overwhelmed. Tens of thousands die in the melee.



Day 97 22 JUNE 1815

Napoleon abdicates again

After Waterloo, the French political elite call for Napoleon to stand down. The emperor accepts defeat and abdicates in favour of his four-year-old son.



Day 105 29 JUNE 1815

Quitting Paris

Napoleon leaves the capital with a small military escort in an effort to escape Blücher's fast-approaching cavalry, which has been told to capture him dead or alive.



Day 114 8 JULY 1815

Louis XVIII restored

Louis returns to Paris and presides over a constitutional monarchy. Wellington remains in France with the allied occupation army until 1818.



THE FINAL SHOWDOWN

Discover where it all went wrong for Napoleon at Waterloo

01 First foray

Between 10am and 11.30am on 18 June, the Battle of Waterloo began with a French attack on a Coalition position at Hougoumont, a large farmhouse that served as a tactical outpost. This fighting was low-key at first with few troops from each side engaged but by the early afternoon, it had become a bloody epicentre for much of the fighting with the Coalition forces holding out against numerous French assaults.

02 GRANDE BATTERIE

At around midday, Napoleon ordered his grande batterie of 80 cannons to open fire upon Wellington's position. The cannons caused many casualties in Wellington's cavalry, opening a potential weak point in the defending lines.

03 French infantry attack

After the Coalition's lines had been weakened, Napoleon began his attack proper with numerous infantry corps advancing. The initial fighting went the way of the French with the left's infantry pressing Wellington's forces back. However, just when it looked like Napoleon would make a decisive break, he was informed that Prussian troops were fast approaching. He tried to send word to Marshal Grouchy to engage with them but his commander was in Wavre.

04 British heavy cavalry attack

Seeing their infantry was about to buckle, Wellington's First and Second Brigades of heavy cavalry charged and smashed into the French infantry. By the time they reached the bottom of the hill, they had completely halted the French's advance. In doing so, however, they had left themselves exposed and without backup.

10 French army retreats

With the French left, right and centre now disintegrating, the only cohesive forces left available to Napoleon were two battalions of his Old Guard. Despite hoping to rally his remaining troops behind them, the strength of the Coalition's army left this untenable and all Napoleon could do was order a retreat. His exit was covered by the Old Guard, many of whom died holding back the Coalition's advance.

05 Napoleon counters

With the Coalition's heavy cavalry now facing squares of French infantry to the front and with no support, Napoleon ordered a counterattack, dispatching his cuirassier and lancer regiments from his own cavalry division. A massive central battle ensued, with cavalry, infantry and artillery all involved. While Napoleon's cavalry regiments took out much of the Coalition's heavy cavalry, they could not wipe them out. Napoleon also dispatched troops to intercept the Prussians.

09 PLANCENOIT RECAPTURED

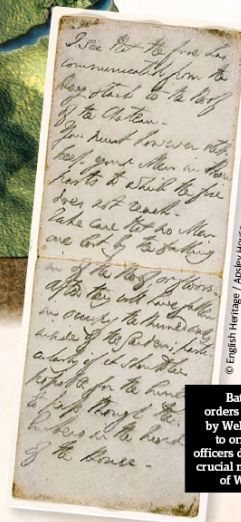
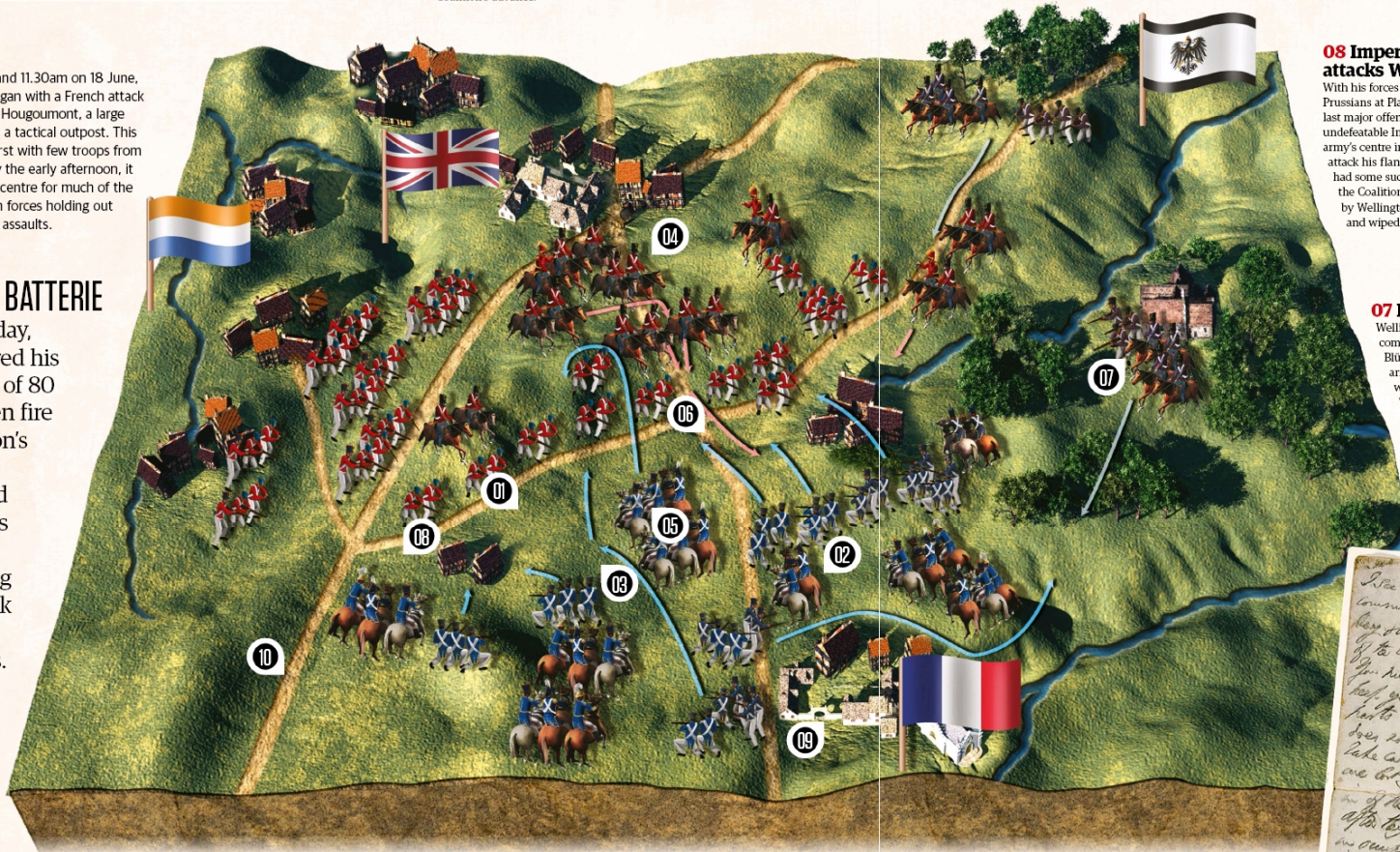
The Prussian army retook Plancenoit and targeted Napoleon's right flank, giving Wellington the upper hand. The Old Guard that had been supporting the French position at Plancenoit beat a hasty retreat.

08 Imperial Guard attacks Wellington

With his forces temporarily holding off the Prussians at Plancenoit, Napoleon went on one last major offensive. He sent the supposedly undefeatable Imperial Guard into Wellington's army's centre in an attempt to break through and attack his flanks from within. While the guard had some success breaching multiple lines of the Coalition force, it was eventually overrun by Wellington's numerically superior infantry and wiped out.

07 Prussians arrive

Wellington had been exchanging communications with General Blücher, commander of the Prussian army, since 10am and knew he was approaching from the east. The Prussians arrived at roughly 4.30pm and, noting the village of Plancenoit on Napoleon's right flank was a tactically important position, began to attack the French forces there. However, after initially taking the village, French forces reclaimed it.



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06 Stalemate

At the heart of the battle, Coalition and French squares then undertook a series of back-and-forth exchanges. All the while cannon and musket fire continued to rain down from all sides and, aside from one more combined arms assault by the French on the centre-right of Wellington's lines, a general melee ensued. Each side saw their numbers steadily chipped away.

BATTLE BY NUMBERS

NAPOLEON **45** YEARS OLD

DUKE OF WELLINGTON **46** YEARS OLD

BLÜCHER **72** YEARS OLD

WATERLOO

15 kilometres from Brussels

ARMY STATS	Seventh Coalition
France	Coalition
TROOPS 72,000	TROOPS 113,000
CAVALRY 14,000	CAVALRY 11,000
CANNONS 252	CANNONS 156

11 HOURS
Length of battle

90 CASUALTIES PER MINUTE

Emergency amputations (without anaesthetic) **2,000**

French losses
25,000 DEAD AND WOUNDED
8,000 PRISONERS

Coalition losses
23,000 DEAD AND WOUNDED

Battlefield orders written by Wellington to one of his officers during a crucial moment of Waterloo



After his brief return, Napoleon was forced to abdicate once more

"A man whose ambition and lust for glory had made the entire continent run with blood"

In this situation, his only option was to strike a rapid blow against the nearest enemy in the hope that a great victory would be obtained that would frighten his foes into making peace. In truth, this was a slim hope. On 15 June 1815, he invaded Belgium with the idea of catching the forces there unawares, as these troops were the most vulnerable to attack.

In the firing line were two separate armies, namely the duke of Wellington's Army of the Netherlands – a polyglot collection of troops from Britain, Holland and various minor German states – and Gebhard von Blücher's Prussian Army of the Lower Rhine. Neither force was of particularly good quality and individually they were both smaller than Napoleon's 125,000-strong Army of the North. In consequence, the emperor planned to defeat them separately by getting between them and hitting each one before they could unite and overwhelm him by the sheer weight of their combined numbers.

As an operational plan this was very good but it was badly executed. Units took wrong turnings, failed to move at the appointed time or became

jammed in the narrow country lanes leading to the frontier. Fortunately for the French, the situation was not at its best in the Allied camp either. For ease of subsisting the troops, the armies of Wellington and Blücher were spread over a wide expanse of southern Belgium and the two commanders were not expecting an attack so soon. That night, Wellington was at a ball hosted by the duchess of Richmond where he and many other key officers enjoyed the free-flowing wine.

Hampered by poor staff-work, however, the French could not take advantage of their opponents' disarray. Initial success against the

Prussians in particular was squandered, and Wellington and Blücher managed to reach safety a few kilometres south of Brussels – close enough to support one another with ease. Napoleon's master plan had failed.

The climax of the campaign came on the morning of Sunday 18 June. Having followed Wellington with the bulk of his forces, Napoleon needed to crush him before the Prussians arrived to help him but heavy rainfall the day before meant that much of his army had not yet arrived. It was nearly midday before his forces finally got into action and even when they did, they found that Wellington had chosen a very strong position in the form of a long ridge studded with a number of stoutly built farms. Every attempt at attack was soundly defeated.

All this time, exactly as he had promised, Blücher's army had been marching to the sound of the guns and at around 4.30pm, large numbers of Prussian soldiers started pouring onto the field on the emperor's right flank. From then on, increasing numbers of French troops had to be diverted to hold off Blücher. Success against Wellington became even harder to attain. One last attack by the Imperial Guard having been beaten off, the onset of evening saw the Prussian pressure simply become too great. The defensive line that had been established to hold them back was not just breached, but swept away.

This was the end – within a matter of minutes, the whole French army had collapsed. The only troops who put up any sort of fight were a few battalions of the Imperial Guard that had remained in reserve. Indeed, such was the disorder that it was only with the greatest difficulty that Napoleon evaded capture at the hands of the



Napoleon's second banishment saw him isolated in the Atlantic



A bicorne hat, said to have belonged to Napoleon

WHERE ELSE COULD NAPOLEON HAVE FLED? If he hadn't surrendered, the ruler could have had his pick of destinations

Live in exile in the United States

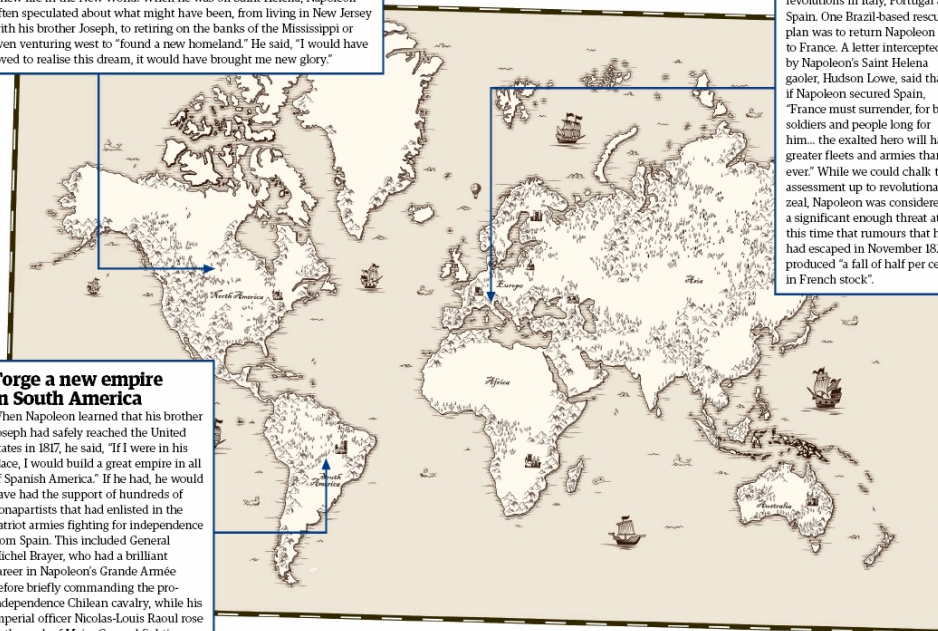
Napoleon seriously considered trying to escape to the United States after the Battle of Waterloo. While he ultimately surrendered to a British warship at Rochefort, he also had a vessel waiting for him at the port laden with furniture, books and maps of the US so that he could start a new life in the New World. When he was on Saint Helena, Napoleon often speculated about what might have been, from living in New Jersey with his brother Joseph, to retiring on the banks of the Mississippi or even venturing west to "found a new homeland." He said, "I would have loved to realise this dream, it would have brought me new glory."

Forge a new empire in South America

When Napoleon learned that his brother Joseph had safely reached the United States in 1817, he said, "If I were in his place, I would build a great empire in all of Spanish America." If he had, he would have had the support of hundreds of Bonapartists that had enlisted in the patriot armies fighting for independence from Spain. This included General Michel Brayer, who had a brilliant career in Napoleon's Grande Armée before briefly commanding the pro-independence Chilean cavalry, while his imperial officer Nicolas-Louis Raoul rose to the rank of Major General fighting in Guatemala. Several rumoured expeditions to rescue Napoleon from Saint Helena came out of Buenos Aires.

Join the revolutions in Europe

While Europe was in no mood to welcome back Napoleon in 1815, within five years there were revolutions in Italy, Portugal and Spain. One Brazil-based rescue plan was to return Napoleon to France. A letter intercepted by Napoleon's Saint Helena gaoler, Hudson Lowe, said that if Napoleon secured Spain, "France must surrender, for both soldiers and people long for him... the exalted hero will have greater fleets and armies than ever." While we could chalk this assessment up to revolutionary zeal, Napoleon was considered a significant enough threat at this time that rumours that he had escaped in November 1820 produced "a fall of half per cent in French stock".



vengeful Prussians. He skulked away to begin to contemplate his next move.

Such was the battle of Waterloo. Deposed by the government he had left behind in Paris, Napoleon eventually surrendered to the British on 15 July, who promptly sent him into perpetual exile on the distant island of Saint Helena. He spent the rest of his life blaming Marshal Emmanuel Grouchy, who had blundered on the battlefield, for his defeat at Waterloo. Napoleon refused to realise that Grouchy, who had ended the day fighting the Prussian rearguard at Wavre, could not have reached him in time to make any real

difference even had he tried to do so. Behind him, meanwhile, the emperor left a battlefield strewn with tens of thousands of casualties. Even in the two World Wars, such a scene of horror was rarely equalled but some might argue that it was a price worth paying for ridding Europe of a man whose ambition and lust for glory had made the entire continent run with blood.

In the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, Napoleon found himself imprisoned in far worse conditions than he had ever endured on Elba – his house, for example, was damp and overrun with rats. Even France suffered much harsher treatment than it

had been subjected to in 1814, having both to pay a large indemnity and to endure three years of military occupation.

What is more, Louis XVIII was restored to the throne and was succeeded by his far less politically savvy brother, Charles X, in 1824. Even so, it was not until 1830 that the House of Bourbon was removed from the French throne for good. Perhaps this was proof of just how exaggerated the rumours of popular discontent were, the very same ones that had persuaded Napoleon to embark on his prison break – an adventure that was never far short of crazy.



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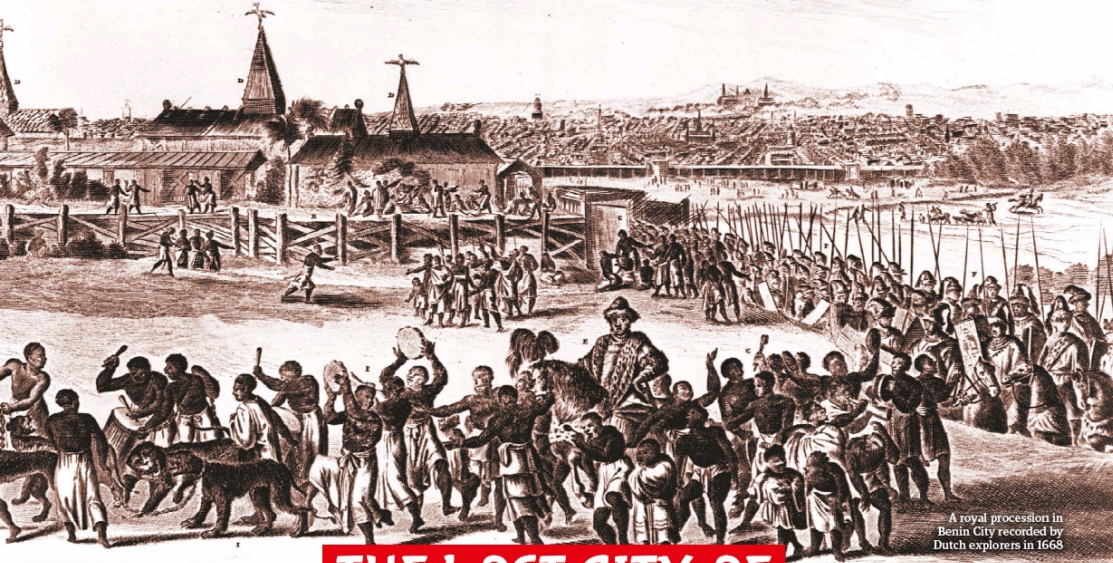
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A royal procession in Benin City recorded by Dutch explorers in 1668

THE LOST CITY OF

BENIN

The capital of Africa's Benin Empire astonished Europeans with its beauty, so why is there nothing left?

“Great Benin, where the king resides, is larger than Lisbon; all the streets run straight and as far as the eye can see,” wrote Portuguese ship captain Lourenço Pinto in 1691. He added, “The houses are large, especially that of the king, which is richly decorated and has fine columns. The city is wealthy and industrious. It is so well governed that theft is unknown and the people live in such security that they have no doors to their houses.”

Located in the depths of the jungle but connected to other African kingdoms and the Atlantic Ocean by the Niger River, Great Benin City was the imperial capital of an empire that, at its peak, stretched from Lagos in the west to beyond the Niger in the east – an area that equates to approximately one-fifth of modern-day Nigeria.

Benin made contact with Europeans in the 1480s when Portuguese traders happened upon it while

WRITTEN BY TOYIN FALOLA



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seemingly trying to find a way around the traditional Sahara trade routes. Dutch merchants arrived 100 years later and, over next 200 years, more traders came from England, France, Germany and Spain. They all returned home with amazing stories to rival Pinto's but today, if you mentioned the Benin Empire to a Westerner – even someone from Portugal, which maintained regular contact with the kingdom for 400 years – they are likely to stare at you blankly. So what happened to the great city of Benin and why did it disappear without a trace?



Ornamental masks made up part of an Oba's regalia

Legend claims Prince Oranmiyan introduced horses to Benin



The beginnings of Benin

According to the oral history of the Edo people, Benin was originally called Igodomigodo, named after Igodo, founder of the Ogiso (meaning 'rulers of the sky') dynasty. Although Igodomigodo would go on to have around 31 Ogiso rulers who governed a formidable kingdom, the Benin Empire didn't begin in earnest until the 12th century.

After years of political discord, Igodomigodo sent emissaries to the neighbouring kingdom of Ife to ask Oduduwa, the father of the Yoruba, for one of his sons to be their ruler. Oduduwa sent his son Oranmiyan and he became the first Oba, or king. He had a son, Eweka, but Oranmiyan found it hard to rule and he eventually renounced his position, saying that the politics of the people made his leadership intractable.

Oranmiyan called Igodomigodo “Ile Ibinu”, or land of anger, and left Eweka behind with palace guardians to instruct him in the art and mysteries of the Benin so he could govern his own people. Eweka's eventual reign started the Oba era. Oba Eweko, who took over after Eweka's death in 1255, changed the name of the kingdom from Ile Ibinu to Ubinu and it was later contact with the Portuguese that changed the name again to Bini, from which we get the name Benin.

With the Oba established, the social hierarchy of the Benin Empire began to take form. Apart from the king, the political elite consisted of the titled chiefs – the Uzama n'ihinron – and the royal family. The Uzama were powerful, and their role in customs and royal administration was gnomic. There were also the palace chiefs who oversaw palace administration, and the town chiefs who carried out regular administrative work such as tribute collection and the conscription of soldiers. Other officials carried out various duties that ranged from hunting to astrology while there were also craftsmen who were like a caste – guilds of artists produced art for the king and his royal court.

THE ALL-MIGHTY OBA

Benin's political, military and religious leader was an autocratic king

SHELTERED LIFE

The Oba rarely appeared in public but when he did an attendant who would shelter him from the sun. No one else was allowed to be shaded in this way within the city.

CORAL CROWN

The Oba wore a headdress and tunic woven of red coral beads. While only the king and his closest companions were allowed to wear the beads, they were so rare and valuable – traded from as far away as the Mediterranean – that few others could have afforded them anyway.

GOD-LIKE STATUS

As well as being the highest political authority, the Obas were the spiritual leader of his people. Religious cults would often develop around them and many would even claim to have supernatural powers.

PENDANT MASK

One of the most iconic symbols of the Benin Empire is the finely carved ivory mask depicting Queen Idia, created for her son, Oba Esigie. However, rather than being worn over the face, these were worn at the waist or around the neck.

ROYAL GUARD

Day to day, most Obas only carried ceremonial weapons such as a fan-shaped sword called an ebon or a switch. Instead, they were protected by royal guards, who would be armed with swords, spears and, in later years, firearms.



KING OF THE JUNGLE

The leopard was a symbol of royal power in Benin. As well as wearing leopard skins, the king used to keep several of the big cats as pets, which were paraded on important occasions like mascots.

STANDING ARMY

Ruling over many cities, towns and villages, Dutch sources claimed that the Oba could mobilise 20,000 soldiers in a day and raise an army of 80,000 to 180,000 soldiers.



Cruise to Timbuktu

Benin City lay deep inside the jungle but it was not cut off from other places. The River Niger connected it to Timbuktu, the capital of the wealthy Mali Empire, and other African kingdoms in the north. The river also flowed south to the Atlantic Ocean, which is how Europeans sailed to the city.

The light fantastic

One of the first cities to have a semblance of street lighting, huge metal lamps fuelled by palm oil (one of the empire's greatest exports) were placed all around the city, though especially near the royal residence, to illuminate traffic.

Discover the other great wall

Huge walls, which *The Guinness Book of World Records* describes as the world's second largest man-made structure after the Great Wall of China, protected Benin City. The defensive fortifications included over 10,000 kilometres of earthen ramparts, some of which were over nine metres tall. As if that wasn't enough, the walls were also encircled by a moat.

Mind-boggling mathematical design

While 16th-century visitors often described Benin City's layout as disorganised, American mathematician Ron Eglash has suggested that the city's architecture – from the arrangement of its districts, to the design of its houses, and even individual rooms in those houses – carefully repeated the same symmetrical patterns.

Tour the rainforest villages

Beyond the city limits, many people lived in villages in clearings in the jungle, farming yams, peppers and other vegetables as well as cotton. The French explorer Reynaud des Marchais noted how carefully the fields were cultivated in the 1720s, producing three to four harvests a year. In imitation of the city's defences, many of these villages were ringed with protective moats.

Royal palace

The grounds of the royal palace made up a great part of the whole city, with Dutch writer Olfert Dapper claiming it was the size of the Dutch town of Haarlem. It included the royal residence of the Oba, various reception courts, quarters for his courtiers and the royal harem. The main palace was square-shaped with a wood-shingled roof, and from the 17th century it was decorated inside with bronze plaques.

Visit the Benin Broadway

According to Dapper, the first thing you saw on entering Benin was a six-kilometre-long thoroughfare: "a great broad street, which is not paved and seems to be seven or eight times greater than Warmoesstraat in Amsterdam. The street is straight and does not bend at any point." Each of the city's nine gates led to broad streets like this, which crisscrossed the city.

Shop in the artisan markets

Many of the city's inhabitants were craftspeople who were organised into guilds. While the all-important brass casters' guild worked exclusively for the Oba, Europeans purchased goods from the wood carvers, ivory carvers, leather workers, blacksmiths and weavers.

Imperial golden age

Between the late 13th century and the 15th century, Benin's empire grew sporadically under the expansionist wars of conqueror kings. The fascination with and the formidable of the empire are built around various historical artefacts such as the impressive range of artworks, their advanced trading networks and the military strategies by which the warrior kings expanded and defended Benin. Benin had a large army of well-trained and disciplined soldiers, and the king was the supreme ruling authority over them.

Oba Ewuare I, who reigned between about 1440 and 1473, is largely credited with the transformation of the kingdom into a modern state structure. He reorganised the political structures through reforms that minimised the uneasy relationship between the Oba and the chiefs, and it enabled him to monopolise military power with the latter factor being responsible for his imperialist expansion. He is also noted for promoting art and artefact production – namely the bronze casting, ivory and wood that Benin would be known for around the world.

The craftsmen produced a distinct style of art that included heads, figurines, brass plaques and other items of royal adornment. Artistry was used to celebrate royal omnipotence and to legitimise the king's power and glory. As the Oba was believed to embody the country and its continuity, art was used to communicate his divinity and possibly to also subjectify his people who rarely saw or had access him as he was believed to be a divine being.

Oba Ewuare was also associated with architectural innovation, city planning, grand festivals and the introduction of royal beads. He built on the efforts of Oba Oguola and completed the first and second moats, a network of ramparts that walled the city against external aggressors. The moat was an impressive part of national defence covering roughly 16,000 kilometres and enclosing 6,500 square kilometres of community land.

It was built over the course of six centuries and it was a work of pre-mechanical engineering marvel.

In 1974, *The Guinness Book of World Records* described the Benin Moat as the largest earthenwork in the world prior to mechanical inventions and it is considered to be the largest man-made invention, second only to the Great Wall of China. Oba Oguola was also believed to be the one who first sent his craftsmen, Igwehgae, to Ife to learn the art of bronze casting.



The Benin Empire expanded through a mix of trade and conquest

Brass bracelets known as 'manillas' were made in the modern Netherlands, traded throughout West Africa and melted down by bronze workers in Benin

An attack on a British caravan was used as an excuse to launch the Punitive Expedition of 1897

Iconic art

Of the many artworks from the Benin Empire, two of them are iconic: The Bronze Head of Queen Idia and the Benin Ivory mask. The Bronze Head is a dedicatory piece in honour of Queen Idia, the mother of Oba Esigle, the king who reigned in the early 16th century. Queen Idia was the first iyoba, or Queen Mother, and she played a hugely significant role in his kingship.

As iyoba, Idia was a titled chief in her own right and she had a district, Iyekuselu, where she presided. She could raise the levies necessary to fund the army she oversaw. Although women were typically banned from certain professions – the army included – she went to war and recorded numerous victories. She was described as both possessing military acumen and sorcery with which she helped her son Esigle to defeat his brother Arhuanran, a contender for the throne.

As she was the king's mother, the iyoba already commanded prestige. But Idia revolutionised the position, allowing future iyobas to wield actual political power. The position demanded, among other qualities, the holder to possess metaphysical power to help her son overcome other contenders to the throne. Queen Idia was said to have magical healing powers, and was depicted in many sculptures and art works commissioned in her honour, such as the Benin Ivory mask. This was a small-scale ivory sculpture, made in honour of Idia. The mask was worn as a pendant by Esigle.



Bronze of Idia, the 16th-century queen mother who led troops into battle

Today, the mask is a stark reminder of the unsavoury circumstances in which artworks left the shores of Africa. The mask was chosen as an emblem of FESTAC '77, a festival that took place in Nigeria and drew people from every part of Africa to celebrate black culture. The Nigerian government tried to secure the mask on a loan from the British Museum, which refused claiming that it was too fragile to transport. The Museum also requested a hefty \$3 million as an indemnity. A sign that things might be improving, last year the British Museum held talks to discuss the return of the Benin Bronzes.

Bloodthirsty demise

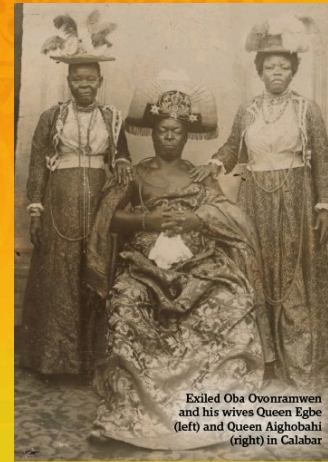
Portuguese explorers made contact with Benin in the 15th century and they quickly started trading. The relationship between Portugal and Benin was so cordial that Oba Esigle was said to have sent ambassadors to Portugal, an exchange that resulted in European influences on Benin's art and culture.

Esigle was reputed to have been literate in Portuguese and this boosted his interaction with the Portuguese traders. Meanwhile, the initial Portuguese missionary effort yielded some fruits as some churches sprang up in Benin. Trade continued between Portugal and Benin, with items including ivory, pepper and a limited supply of slaves.

During this period, there wasn't really a major drive for a slave trade, because it was mainly women were sold into serfdom in Benin. Those who were enslaved – either because they were captured in war or forced to pay off their debts with hard labour – were arguably held more for the royal court's prestige than actual economic proceeds. Trade in slavery was therefore marginal, as enslaved men were more useful to boost Benin's military might than as a means of exchange. Besides, Benin was enjoying such an economical and military high that they didn't need the proceeds from the Atlantic slave trade. It's also worth noting that Benin's relationship with the Europeans went beyond trading goods to warfare and mercenary services.

But by the 17th century, the kingdom had begun to decline as a result of a lack

An ivory saltcellar showing European traders and their ship from 17th-century Benin



Exiled Oba Ovonramwen and his wives Queen Egbé (left) and Queen Aigbohah (right) in Calabar

of leadership, internal fractures and indiscipline among members of the ruling class. When the slave trade was abolished and the price of ivory fell, it hit Benin hard.

In the mid-18th century, the empire got a boost under Oba Eresonyen but it was not to last. The kingdom was starting to shrink as former territories began to move away from the old empire to towards the British both for trade and protection.

In the mid-19th century, Benin began to trade in palm oil and as the product became more important to the British, they sought to make Benin a protectorate. The Oba took refuge in isolationism and since Benin's political power had declined, the king took to making human sacrifices to reignite his sacral authority. In 1892, vice-consul H.L. Gallwey pushed Oba Ovonramwen to sign his now diminished empire to the British as a protectorate. There was some doubt about whether the Oba indeed signed the treaty as he was unsure if the British had good intentions. By making Benin a British protectorate, the treaty would have facilitated commerce, ceased slave trading and ended human sacrifice.

Benin eventually fell during the punitive expedition of 1897. The Oba sensed that the British intended to depose him so his chiefs, against his knowledge, ordered a pre-emptive attack on a



British soldiers surrounded by looted Benin treasures in 1897

"She was described as both possessing a military acumen and sorcery"

caravan carrying unarmed British officers. Two of the officials managed to escape but that incident sealed Oba Ovonramwen's fate. Realising that his kingdom would be invaded, he ramped up the rate of human sacrifices to appease his ancestors.

The news of the Oba's increasing bloodthirstiness, coupled with the deaths of the British officials, became a justification for the invasion of 1897 and Britain summoned its forces to descend on Benin. The Oba, his chiefs and their followers fled, although they came back and eventually surrendered. The Oba apparently approached the British with the pomp and pageantry of his position but he was humiliated and deposed. He was eventually sent to exile in Calabar, in the southeastern region of Nigeria, where he died in 1914.

Setting out to destroy what remained, the British set Benin on fire – but they moved the royal treasures to a safe place first. They sold some of the priceless artefacts in Lagos and transferred others to Europe, where they made their ways into private collections and museums. The sales were meant to cover the cost of the expeditions. In 1914, the throne was restored to Eweka II, Ovonramwen's son, although under the supervision of the British colonial officers. What was left of Benin was nothing but a shadow of its former glory and today no signs remain of its mighty walls or moats.



“Among the dead were nobility, military and wellwishers who had come to take part in the biggest royal wedding Madrid had seen in decades”

You are cordially invited to

THE Royal Wedding Bloodbath

OF Princess Victoria Eugenie & King Alfonso XIII

Written by June Woolerton

It was the recipe for a perfect royal wedding. The groom was a young king who had fallen head over heels for his new wife. The bride was a pretty princess who had called Queen Victoria grandmamma. Their romance caught the imagination of people around Europe and tens of thousands of wellwishers lined the streets of Madrid on 31 May 1906 to see Alfonso XIII of Spain and his new queen, Princess Victoria Eugenie of Battenberg, ride in triumph from their glittering marriage ceremony to the illustrious wedding reception that was to take place at the Royal Palace of Madrid.

The crowds cheered and jostled for the best positions while some threw flowers and confetti to celebrate. But among the petals was a deadly wedding gift. As the king and queen of Spain approached the heart of the city, a bouquet containing a bomb was launched at their carriage.

The man who threw it, Mateo Morral, had aimed directly for the royal party but the bomb was deflected on its descent from a high window of the building where the would-be assassin stood.

It landed next to the wedding carriage and close to the crowds that had gathered to see the bride and groom as they made their way along the Calle Mayor, one of the most famous streets in Madrid, and exploded instantly.

Just moments earlier, the new queen had turned her head to look at a church that her husband was pointing out to her. That action

was uninjured and were quickly taken to safety. Morral fled amid the chaos.

The moment of the explosion was captured forever by a spectator, Eugenio Mesonero

Romanos, whose famous photo of the bomb going off appeared in papers around the world in the following days. It showed the beginnings of the terrifying afternoon that would claim dozens of lives and leave over 100 people injured. Among the dead were nobility, military and wellwishers who had come to take part in the biggest royal wedding Madrid had seen for decades.

While the city began to count the cost of the bomb, King Alfonso XIII and Queen Victoria Eugenie were expected to carry on with their royal duties. They appeared to the public

at the Royal Palace and then walked into their wedding reception, attended by royalty from around Europe, with the queen still in her bridal gown, now spattered with blood.



Alfonso XIII had been king of Spain since the moment of his birth and had grown into a fiery and arrogant young man



Pretty but shy and sheltered, Princess Ena wasn't first pick as bride for King Alfonso XIII of Spain

was credited with saving her life. The glass windows of the carriage shattered, the horses bolted and people all around them fell to the ground. However, Alfonso and Victoria Eugenie

It was a terrifying introduction for the queen but her husband was already used to attempts on his life, despite having only just turned 20. Just a year before, Morral may have tried to kill him in Paris by throwing a bomb at his car as he left the opera. In 1903, a gunman had taken aim at him as he returned home from church. Alfonso remained as calm during these two attacks as he did during the wedding day bombing but this king had known plenty of turbulence in his two decades. After all, his whole life had been an unusual mix of tragedy and drama.

Alfonso had been king of Spain from the moment of his birth on 17 May 1886. His father, Alfonso XII, had died in November 1885 aged just 27 following a short reign that had seen the Bourbon monarchy restored after a period of exile. Alfonso XII attempted to introduce political stability following decades of turmoil and became popular for his common touch and willingness to engage with his people.

Following the birth of Alfonso XII's son six months after his death, his widow, Queen Maria Christina, ruled as regent with the aim of solidifying the throne for the new king. When he was just 16, Alfonso XIII took the reins of power and seemed to relish his position from the off. His father had introduced a system for rotating government between the conservative and liberal parties and Alfonso embraced this wholeheartedly, although it would ultimately lead to instability. The young king also showed a keen interest in the military but his headstrong personality won him enemies from an early age.

However, that determination to do things his own way had been a big factor in ensuring his

royal wedding happened in the first place. His bride had been nowhere near the top of anyone's list as a potential queen of Spain but her own naïveté and Alfonso's ambition had produced a royal wedding like no other in the space of little more than a year.

Victoria Eugenie Julia Ena, born at Balmoral on 24 October 1887, was the youngest granddaughter of Queen Victoria. Allegedly among her godmothers was the exiled Empress Eugenie of France, after whom she was named. It was hardly a good omen. The empress was living in England after being sent into exile with her husband, Napoleon III, who had died soon after arriving at his new home.

Ena, as the young princess was always called, also had to put up with the sneers of Europe's upper classes over her lineage. While her mother, Princess Beatrice, was the youngest child of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, her father had a much lower family tree. Prince Henry of Battenberg

was the son of Prince Alexander of Hesse and by Rhine and a mere countess, Julia Hauke, whose marriage had been remarkably unequal. That lack of blue blood was raised as an objection almost as soon as Alfonso first set his sights on Ena in 1905. Not even the steely arguments of his very regal mother, who was concerned Ena might carry the potentially deadly condition haemophilia, so prevalent among Queen Victoria's descendants, could persuade him to change his mind.

Ena, meanwhile, was swept off her feet. She had grown up behind palace walls with little experience of real life. Her father had died when she was ten while one of the conditions of her



parents' marriage had allegedly been that the whole family live with Queen Victoria on a permanent basis. Ena's childhood was spent as the companion of the old queen.

By the time Victoria died, Ena was 14 and her sheltered existence continued into the new reign of her uncle, Edward VII. Shy and unworried, the attentions of a young king who promised a life of adventure away from the walls of Britain's castles proved irresistible. The papers might have been full of the political problems pressing Spain but this royal bride's naïve enthusiasm for excitement blinded her to any potential dangers that the marriage might bring.

Alfonso wooed her with love letters and their engagement was seemingly sealed after a chaperoned stay in Biarritz in France. Ena then apparently travelled to San Sebastián to meet her future husband's family. In the space of a few months her future had changed from one of editing her grandmother's diaries to a world of new experiences with the promise of a crown at the end of it all.



A monument to the victims of the 1906 attack still stands in Madrid today



The bomb was thrown at the carriage as the procession reached its triumphal high point with thousands thronging Madrid's famous Calle Mayor

Love and letdowns

Alfonso and Ena were determined to marry but their romance would turn sour

5. All change for Ena
As marriage preparations got under way, Ena was instructed in the Catholic faith. She converted on 7 March 1906 and the engagement was announced the same day. The Spanish ambassador and British foreign secretary signed a treaty outlining the terms of the marriage, which included Ena giving up her rights to the British throne.

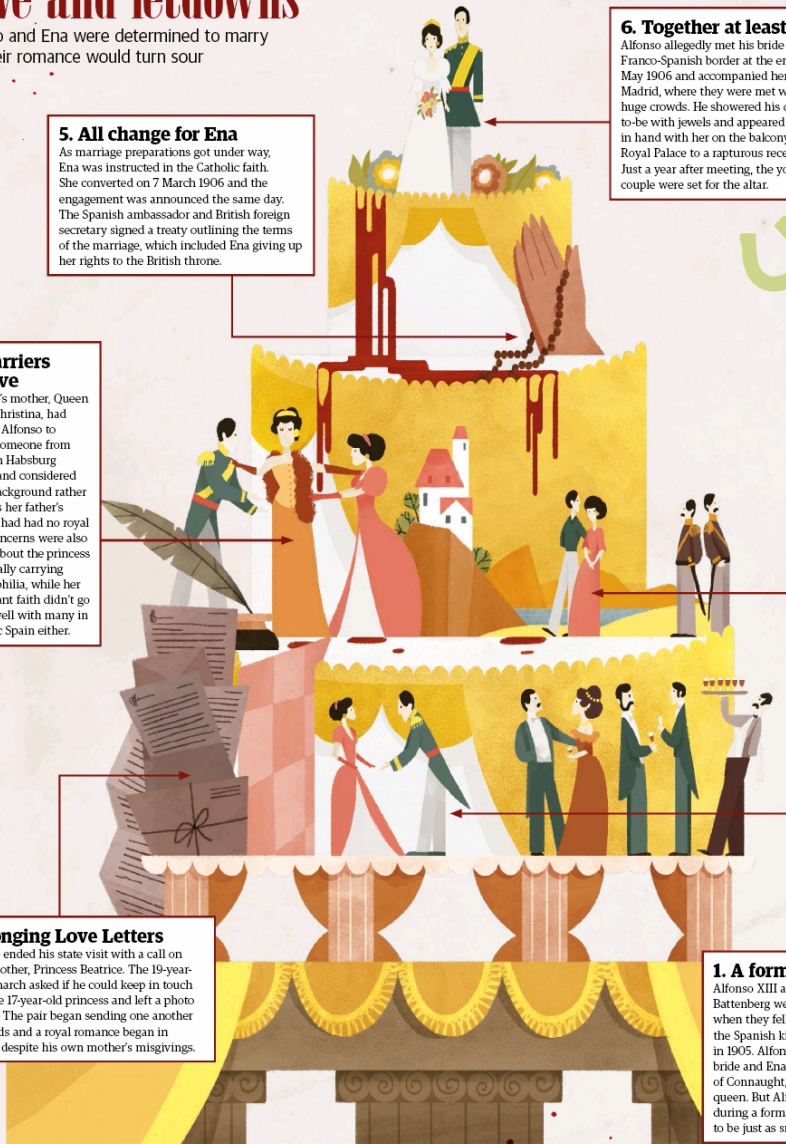
4. Barriers to love
Alfonso's mother, Queen Maria Christina, had wanted Alfonso to marry someone from her own Habsburg family and considered Ena's background rather lowly as her father's mother had had no royal title. Concerns were also raised about the princess potentially carrying haemophilia, while her Protestant faith didn't go down well with many in Catholic Spain either.

2. Longing Love Letters
Alfonso ended his state visit with a call on Ena's mother, Princess Beatrice. The 19-year-old monarch asked if he could keep in touch with the 17-year-old princess and left a photo for Ena. The pair began sending one another postcards and a royal romance began in earnest despite his own mother's misgivings.

6. Together at least
Alfonso allegedly met his bride at the Franco-Spanish border at the end of May 1906 and accompanied her to Madrid, where they were met with huge crowds. He showered his queen-to-be with jewels and appeared hand in hand with her on the balcony of the Royal Palace to a rapturous reception. Just a year after meeting, the young couple were set for the altar.

3. A whirlwind romance
Maria Christina finally relented and in January 1906, Ena and her mother, Beatrice, went to Biarritz to meet Alfonso. The lovebirds enjoyed a romance under the always watchful eyes of chaperones. The groom then took his bride to San Sebastián to meet his mother.

1. A formal beginning
Alfonso XIII and Victoria Eugenie of Battenberg were both still teenagers when they fell for one another during the Spanish king's state visit to England in 1905. Alfonso was on the hunt for a bride and Ena's cousin, Princess Patricia of Connaught, was lined up as a potential queen. But Alfonso was charmed by Ena during a formal dinner and she turned out to be just as smitten.



Kings and queens

The quiet princess was suddenly important. Ena reportedly spent time in France preparing to convert to Roman Catholicism, as the terms of her marriage dictated. The wedding was sealed with international treaties while Alfonso prepared a jewellery collection worth hundreds of thousands of pounds for his blushing bride.

Ena arrived in Spain shortly before her wedding day and travelled to Madrid through apparently never-ending crowds of cheering Spaniards. Days before their marriage, Alfonso led her out onto the balcony of his palace where thousands celebrated and shouted their approval as the young couple held hands. But by then Mateo Morral was making his plans to end this royal fairytale before it even had a chance to begin.

Morral was the son of a factory owner from Barcelona and had been educated abroad as well as at home. His increasing interest in the anarchist movement and hatred for Spain's ruling classes seemed to take hold during a stay in Germany and when he returned home in 1899, he showed fanatical support for workers' rights and the intermittent strikes that were taking place at the time in Catalonia. His supposed failed assassination attempt on Alfonso XIII in 1905 only further fuelled his anger at the monarchy. Days before the royal wedding was due to take place, he was seen carving a message into a tree in the Retiro Park in Madrid which warned that Alfonso would die on the day of his marriage.

“They were just minutes into their route, with church bells still ringing”

By then, Morral was in possession of the bomb with which he intended to kill the king and queen. It was an Orsini device, reportedly made in France, designed to explode on impact. On the morning of 31 May 1906, while Alfonso XIII collected his bride from the Royal Palace of El Pardo so they could attend Mass together ahead of their marriage, Morral was making his final preparations for the attack in a room at 84 Calle Mayor.

Princess Ena was dressed for her wedding at the Ministry of the Marine and rode to the Monastery Church of San Jerónimo in Madrid through streets decked with the Spanish flag. The church had been filled with flowers and electric lights had been put into its gloomy arches for the occasion. In its cramped pews sat European royalty including the Prince and Princess of Wales (the future George V and Queen Mary), and the heirs to the thrones of Belgium, Greece and Monaco. The bride walked down the aisle accompanied by her mother and future mother-in-law to be met by her groom. The ceremony, conducted by the archbishop of Toledo, went off without a hitch and

The bloodied bridal gown

A queen's dream dress that became a reminder of tragedy

A romantic bride

Orange blossom, signifying purity and marriage, featured on the dress and in the bride's hair. The new queen gave a sprig to Mary of Teck, the future bride of Britain's George V, who was a guest at the wedding.

Royal symbolism

The fleur-de-lys, a symbol of the House of Bourbon ruled by King Alfonso XIII, covered the wedding gown. It also featured in the huge diamond tiara given to the bride by her groom.

Made in Spain

Ena's gown cost £4,000 at the time (£500,000 in today's money), and was designed and sewn in Spain. It was made of hand-embroidered white satin.

The corset that saved a monarch?

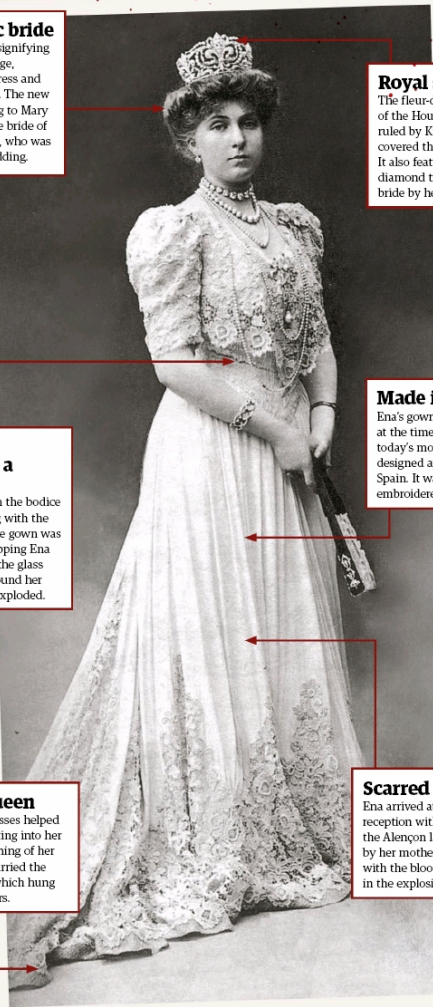
The whalebone in the bodice of the dress along with the heavy fabric of the gown was credited with stopping Ena being injured by the glass that shattered around her when the bomb exploded.

Fit for a queen

12 Spanish duchesses helped the queen-in-waiting into her dress on the morning of her wedding. They carried the 4.5-metre train, which hung from her shoulders.

Scarred by disaster

Ena arrived at her wedding reception with her dress and the Alençon lace veil first worn by her mother-in-law spattered with the blood of a guard killed in the explosion.



Royal Wedding Bloodbath

Le Petit Journal



Alfonso and Ena, now king and queen of Spain, left the Church of San Jerónimo in Madrid to cheers but were just minutes away from disaster

the couple headed out into the sunshine for their triumphal procession home.

King Alfonso and Queen Ena rode in a coach drawn by eight cream-coloured horses, one of 19 royal carriages in the parade that was designed to put on a show for the crowds who had come to celebrate. They were just minutes into their route, with church bells still ringing and cannons still firing, when Morral threw his bomb.

Among those killed were six soldiers, two officers and the head of the king's escort. The marchioness of Colosa and her 14-year-old daughter also died in the attack as did one of the grooms and several of the horses. Morral was reportedly helped to escape by a journalist, José Nakens, and disappeared. However, he was spotted at Torrejón de Ardoz, where it's thought

he was hoping to catch a train back to Barcelona on 2 June 1906. He seemed to give himself up without a fight but he shot one of his guards soon afterwards and ended up dead from a gunshot wound himself. The official report said that he had committed suicide.

Alfonso and Ena began their marriage by putting on a PR show. The day after the wedding, the couple drove through Madrid in an open-topped car to show that royal life would carry on as normal. The new queen, perhaps unsurprisingly, seemed downcast and reticent, leading to instant criticism. Ena's honeymoon was over before it had begun.

Ultimately, there was to be no happy ending for Alfonso and Ena. Two of their sons inherited haemophilia, despite protestations before the

marriage. Ena was held completely responsible for their health problems and Alfonso's erratic attitude contributed to the political turmoil that sent Spain's royals into exile in 1931.

A monument still stands in Madrid to all those killed in the bomb attack launched against Alfonso and Ena in May 1906. The lives lost and the damage done turned this royal wedding into a tragedy in an instant.

Real-life Red Weddings

Plots, poisonings and massacres - when the joining of royal houses go wrong



Roman Emperor Caracalla and a princess of Parthia

According to Herodian, Emperor Caracalla proposed marriage to a daughter of King Artabanus V of Parthia in 216 CE. The father of the bride was suspicious but, legend has it, ended up agreeing to the match only to see his new son-in-law's troops attack the wedding party as the vows were being said. The poor bride was killed so quickly that her name has been forgotten by history.



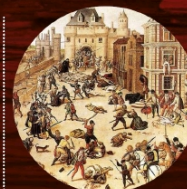
Saint Olga of Kiev and Prince Mal of the Drevlians

Olga's beloved husband, Igor, was killed by the Drevlians in 945. The story goes that when the offending tribe sent messengers to Olga proposing a marriage to a prince called Mal, she had them buried alive. A cohort sent to accompany her to the wedding was burned to death. Olga then organised a massacre that killed thousands of people before setting fire to a city using sparrows.



Mary, Queen of Scots, and James, Earl of Bothwell

This royal relationship brought a disastrous end to not one but two royal weddings. In 1567, the Earl of Bothwell was accused of murdering Mary's second husband, Lord Darnley. Days after being acquitted of the killing, he abducted Mary and married her. The union was hugely unpopular and weeks later, Bothwell fled Scotland while Mary was imprisoned and forced to abdicate.



King Henry III of Navarre and Margaret of Valois

Protestant Henry's marriage to Catholic Margaret on 18 August 1572 in Paris arguably led to the infamous St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre. Their wedding was part of a peace pact but on 24 August, thousands of Protestants in the city to celebrate the marriage were killed. Rumours swirled that Margaret's mother, Catherine de' Medici, had poisoned Henry's mother, Jeanne, earlier that summer.



Prince Amadeo of Savoy and Maria Vittoria dal Pozzo

This royal wedding, on 30 May 1867, has gone down in legend for its endless tragedies. The bride's wardrobe mistress allegedly hanged herself and on the wedding day and the palace gatekeeper was found with his throat slit. The best man apparently shot himself while firing his gun in celebrations for the wedding, and the couple's honeymoon train reportedly ran over the stationmaster.

GALILEO

VERSUS

THE CHURCH

From experiments to inquisition, discover the Renaissance scientist's iconic clash with the pope and how he proved that the Earth goes around the Sun

Written by Jessica Leggett

Galileo Galilei was never destined for a life as an astronomer and physicist. Ironically, he attended school at the local monastery and after this had been well on his way for a future as a doctor. His father, Vincenzo, had high hopes for his son and arranged for him to study medicine at the University of Pisa from 1581. In spite of this, Galileo never cared for biology, developing a far greater interest in philosophy and mathematics. Against the protestations of his father, he promptly switched subjects and never looked back.

Studying hard for four years, Galileo left university without a degree and turned his hand to private tutoring. During this time he wrote his short treatise, *Cosmography*, which he used to teach his students about the mysterious celestial bodies. *Cosmography* adhered to the widely accepted, traditional geocentric philosophies of Aristotle and Ptolemy, which placed the Earth at the centre of the universe.

He soon moved on from his tutoring career and returned to the University of Pisa in 1589, where he spent the next three years as the professor of mathematics. It is likely that this is when he succeeded in disproving Aristotle's theory that objects of different mass fall at different speeds, though whether Galileo actually tested this by dropping balls of the Leaning Tower of Pisa is disputed as the only record we have of it is a biography written by his pupil Vincenzo Viviani in 1717.

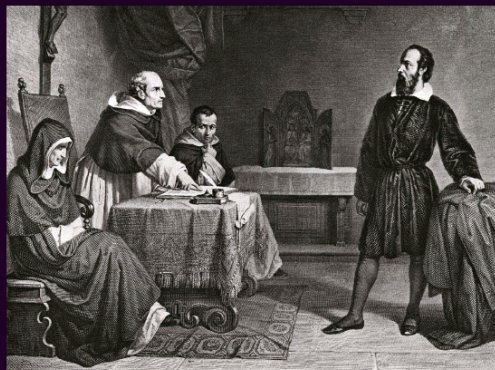
Unfortunately, his unconventional beliefs made Galileo unpopular so his contract at the university was not renewed. He moved once again in 1592 and travelled north to Padua, where he assumed a new, higher paid position as a professor of mathematics at the city's university. Here, Galileo really began to hone his research. He conducted a number of experiments, many of which were in the field of mechanics.

Starting in 1602, he made some of the first scientific observations regarding pendulums. He also uncovered the principle of isochronism, where a pendulum would take the same time to complete a swing regardless of how big that swing was. Ultimately, this led to the invention of the accurate mechanical clock in 1656 – a device humanity came to rely on.

After a few years of dedicating his time to his experiments, everything changed. In 1609, Galileo heard rumours that a device that could make distant objects appear close had been invented in the Netherlands: the telescope. Once he learned that it had been simply made with just a tube and a lens on both ends, he immediately set out to re-create one for himself. His initial versions ranged in magnifying power, up to eight times, but by 1610, he had developed a telescope that could be magnified 20 times – far more powerful than the original, rudimentary invention.

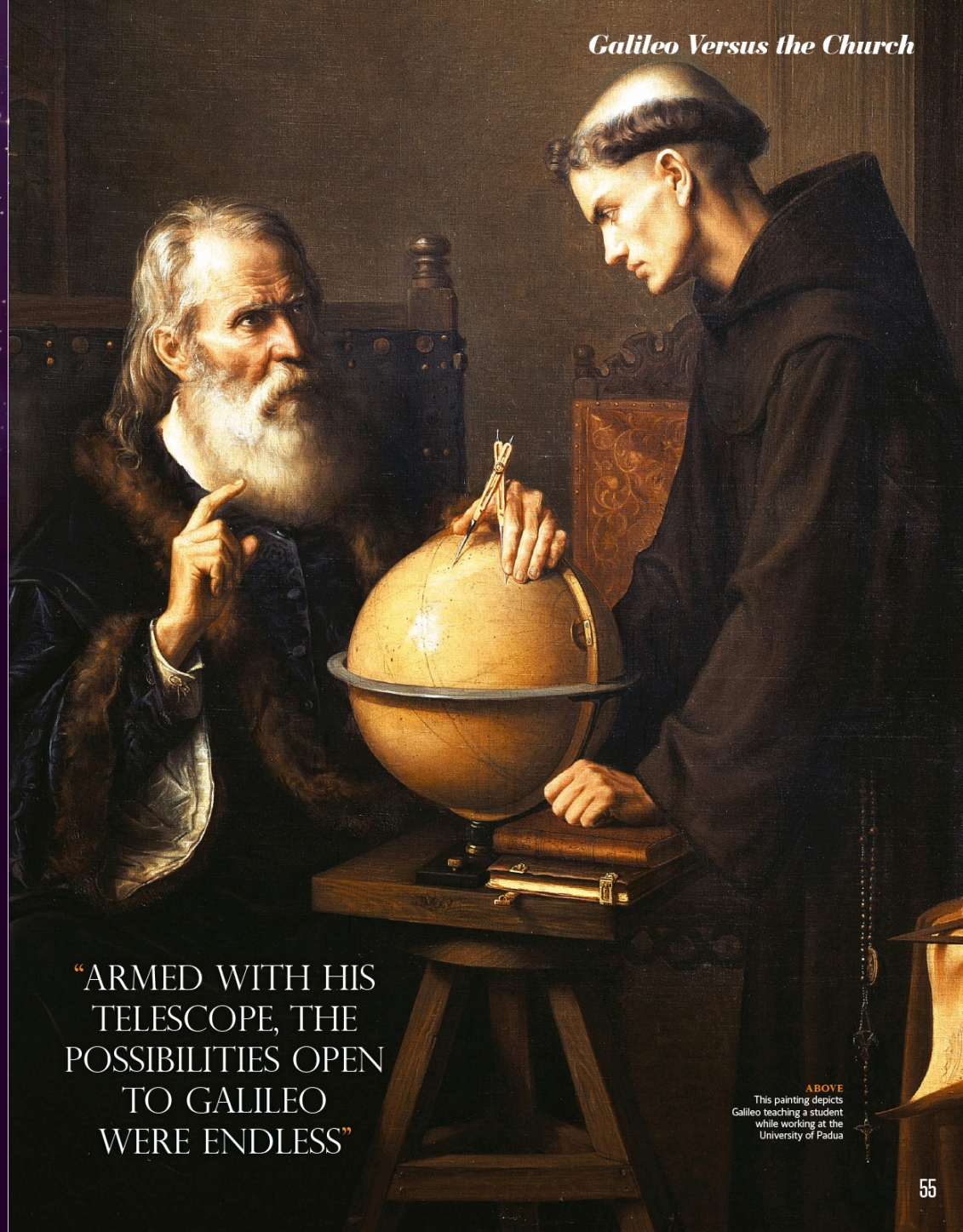
Armed with his telescope, the possibilities open to Galileo were endless. Just between 1609 and 1610 alone, he discovered mountains on the Moon, the four satellites of Jupiter and numerous stars in the Milky Way. He observed the different phases of Venus and, mistakenly, believed that he had found two 'ears' that accompanied Saturn. Although he did not realise it, Galileo had actually observed Saturn's iconic ring, which would first be confirmed in 1656.

BELOW
Galileo faces off the finger-pointing Roman Inquisition in this Cristiano Banti painting from 1857



“ARMED WITH HIS
TELESCOPE, THE
POSSIBILITIES OPEN
TO GALILEO
WERE ENDLESS”

ABOVE
This painting depicts Galileo teaching a student while working at the University of Padua



HELIO-WHAT?!

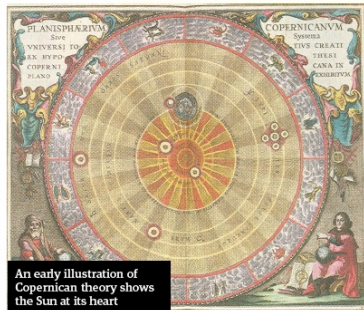
Astrophysicist Dr Gemma Lavender from All About Space magazine explains the science behind Galileo's discoveries



WHAT WAS GEOCENTRISM?

This was a belief, as early as the 4th century, that the Earth was at the centre of the Solar System, while the Moon, Sun and planets orbited around our planet. The idea also extended further outside our solar neighbourhood, with ancient civilisations also thinking that the stars orbited the Earth on circular (not elliptical) paths.

In the geocentric model, the Earth was pictured as a sphere at the centre of the cosmos that doesn't move - and doesn't even rotate on its axis. The system was devised by Greco-Roman astronomer and mathematician Claudius Ptolemy who, alongside Greek philosopher Aristotle, was seen as an authority on matters that were encompassed by astronomy and the natural sciences.



An early illustration of Copernican theory showing the Sun at its heart

WHERE DID THIS THEORY ORIGINATE FROM?

The idea came about from observations of the motions of the Sun during the day and the stars and planets at night. If you watch these celestial bodies making their way across Earth's sky, it appears as if they're orbiting us. We also know our planet to be spinning on its axis and making its way around the Sun on its orbit. Standing on its surface, though - and from our Earth-bound perspective - it feels like it's stationary. That's how Ancient Greek, Roman and Medieval philosophers, led by Aristotle and Plato, saw our place in the universe. At the time of their studies of the geocentric model, Aristotle and Plato had also worked out that the Earth is a sphere.

HOW DOES HELIOCENTRISM WORK?

Helio-centrism is the model that we use today and explains how Earth and other planets in

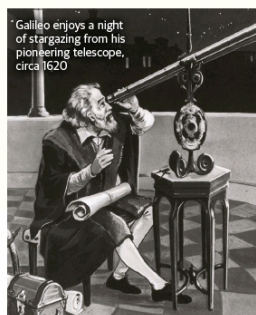
our Solar System orbit the Sun. The theory was initially proposed by Polish astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus, who also believed that the universe was in orbit around our nearest star. He had been made aware of the rising problems brought about by the geocentric model; it was unable to make accurate predictions during studies of the cosmos. Copernicus proposed, just like the geocentric model, that orbiting bodies moved around the Sun on circular orbits. Of course, today we know these orbits to be elliptical.

WHY WAS THIS IDEA SO CONTROVERSIAL AT THE TIME?

By moving the Sun to the centre of the model, displacing the Earth, we - God's creations - were no longer at the centre of the universe. Copernicus knew that this would greatly upset the Church and so he didn't publish his theory until near the end of his life.

Later, in 1610, Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei observed the phases of Venus and the moons of Jupiter using a telescope. He used his findings to promote Copernicus' heliocentric model. Galileo's discoveries were met with opposition from the Catholic Church and as a result, many educated people still believed that the Earth was at the centre of the universe. Books, teachings and the defending of the heliocentric theory were banned.

The new issue of All About Space is out now, priced £4.99. For more information, visit myfavouritebooks.co.uk



Galileo enjoys a night of stargazing from his pioneering telescope, circa 1620

Galileo's celestial discoveries, coupled with his mathematical genius, placed him light years ahead of his contemporaries. His sudden fame came at a time when the Copernican Revolution was already well underway. Back in 1543, Nicolaus Copernicus published *On the Revolution of Heavenly Spheres*, which argued that the Sun, not the Earth, was at the centre of the universe. This theory became known as 'heliocentrism' (from the Greek 'hēlios' meaning 'sun'), and contradicted the notion that the universe revolved around our planet, or geocentrism (from 'gē' meaning 'Earth'). As Galileo was making his own celestial observations, German astronomer Johannes Kepler was also conducting significant research in the field.

Kepler's *Astronomia Nova* was published in 1609 after his decade-long research into the motion of Mars. One of the most momentous works to ever grace the world of science, not only did Kepler conclude that orbital paths were elliptical and not circular, he also argued that his findings supported heliocentrism. With his telescope, Galileo's revolutionary

research was about to prove that Copernicanism was not just a hypothesis - it was reality.

Galileo decided to share his new discoveries, starting with his book *Sidereus Nuncius* in 1610. Also known by its English name, *Starry Messenger*, it drew a lot of interest and raised his celebrity profile to new heights. That same year, he was appointed to the prestigious position of court mathematician to Cosimo II de' Medici, Grand Duke of Tuscany, one of his former pupils. However, *Starry Messenger* also attracted a lot of criticism. Galileo's conclusion that it was the Sun at the centre of the universe was not accepted by the Catholic Church, the most powerful institution in Italy - it steadfastly supported the traditional geocentric views of Aristotle and Ptolemy.

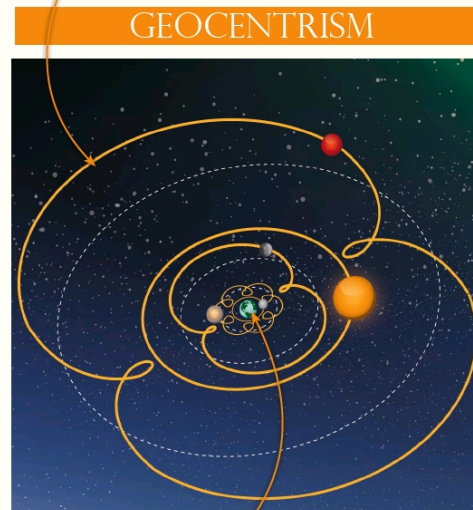
But all was not yet lost for Galileo. He was not confronted with total opposition to his astronomical findings - for instance, Jesuit astronomers managed to repeat his observations themselves. Galileo even had a few admirers from the Church, most notably Cardinal Maffeo Barberini. Despite being faced

BELOW
Galileo's drawings of the phases and surface of the Moon from *Sidereus Nuncius*, 1610



ROUND AND ROUND

The concept of orbits was already well understood but theories differed. Geocentrism plotted the course of the planets from Earth's perspective over a number of years, resulting in a curly orbit.

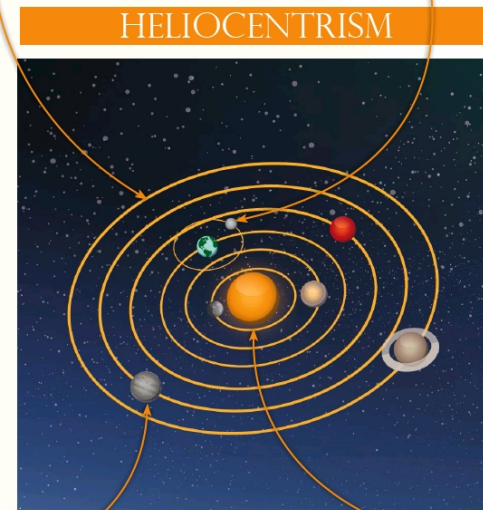


CENTRE OF ATTENTION

People assumed that the Earth was at the centre of the universe because this is how the Catholic Church interpreted the Biblical Scriptures. Supporters of Copernicus tried to prove this theory was incorrect.

HERE COMES THE SUN

Of course, we now know that planets circle the Sun, not the Earth. By placing the Sun at the centre of the universe, we are able to observe that the planets move in an elliptical path around it.



MOONS OF JUPITER

The arrival of the telescope in 1609 allowed scientists to observe the Solar System much closer than they were previously able to. As Galileo observed moons orbiting Jupiter, it disproved the idea that all celestial bodies revolved around Earth.

MOON GAZING

By observing the moons of other planets, astronomers found evidence for the heliocentric theory that the Earth could both move and keep the Moon in its orbit at the same time.

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

Geocentrism dictated that the stars moved around the Earth. However, the stars - including the Sun - are fixed. It is, in fact, the rotation of the Earth on its axis that makes it appear as if the stars move.

"GALILEO REFUSED TO BACK DOWN"

with all the evidence, the Church refused to reconcile with the Copernican model. Some astronomers within the Church, such as the Jesuits, advocated the Tycho system, developed by astronomer Tycho Brahe, which mathematically supported Galileo's research but also maintained the status quo. According to Brahe, the Sun and Moon revolved around the Earth but the other planets orbited the Sun - a mix of the two theories.

Infinitely frustrated that his evidence was being ignored, Galileo refused to back down. He campaigned incessantly in favour of Copernicus' theories and clashed with theologians, who desperately clung to their geocentric views. Even though he provoked attention, his combative behaviour backfired and the Jesuits turned their back on him. Now the Catholic Church

decided that they had let Galileo run wild long enough - it was time to put its foot down.

What followed was one of the most momentous events in history regarding the tentative relationship between religion and science: the 'Galileo Affair'. In 1616, the Roman Catholic Inquisition investigated Galileo's work, for which he was being accused of heresy. A group of theologians were asked to assess the theory of heliocentrism that Galileo had so defiantly defended and whether it held any merit.

Of course, the theologians' primary task was the defence of the Catholic Church and the Bible and less than a week later, the judgement was passed. They announced that heliocentrism contradicted the Holy Scriptures and thus Copernicanism amounted to heresy. No sooner had the verdict been delivered than Galileo was ordered to stop his support for the theory and all works associated with it, including his, were banned pending suitable corrections. Instead of getting acceptance, Galileo had been left with disaster.



ABOVE
A replica based on Galileo's design for a pendulum clock

"THE CATHOLIC CHURCH GRIPPED ONTO TRADITION MUCH TIGHTER"

This was not a clear-cut case of science versus religion, of who was right and who was wrong. The possible ramifications of Galileo's conclusions were terrifying to the Catholic Church. The Protestant Reformation had dominated Europe throughout the 16th century, shaking Western Christianity to its core. In order to maintain its authority during a time of great instability, the Catholic Church gripped onto tradition much tighter than they ever had before.

The last thing the papacy needed was Galileo advocating for Copernicanism, which not only threatened the traditional interpretation of the Holy Scriptures, but also the authority of the Church itself. This was a dangerous and sensitive time to go up against Catholicism, as Galileo had discovered. However, despite the ban, he was still allowed to discuss Copernicus' theories on the condition that he treated them in a purely hypothetical sense.

Quietly waiting for the whole debacle to subside, Galileo continued his work. Despite the controversy, he had not wavered from his support for heliocentrism but by this point he was in his 50s and suffering from recurring periods of ill health, which made his research slow down significantly.

Then in 1623, seven years after his condemnation, it appeared that Galileo's luck was finally about to change. His long-time friend and supporter Cardinal Barberini - who had valiantly defended him during the Inquisition - was elected to the head of the Catholic Church as Pope Urban VIII. Galileo was ecstatic. Although he was still banned from openly advocating heliocentrism, he believed that with his friend as the head of the Catholic Church, the opportunity to have his research accepted was now within his grasp.

With renewed vigour, Galileo started to work on a new book, which compared the Copernican and Ptolemaic systems. He

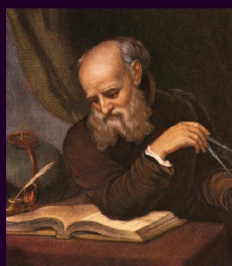


ABOVE
One of the earliest telescopes Galileo created was the refracting telescope, which gathers more light than the human eye

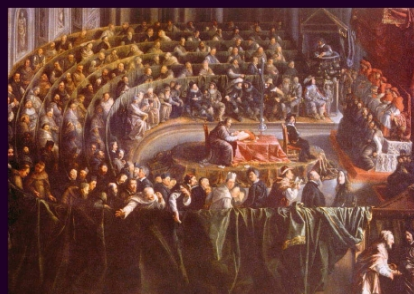
LEFT
The strength of rods and beams, as shown in Galileo's final work *Two New Sciences*

RIGHT
Galileo Galilei, the man who challenged the Catholic Church

BELOW
In the Inquisition court, Galileo is questioned by a jury



Galileo demonstrates his telescope to Venetian enthusiasts in Piazza San Marco, Venice, in 1609



received permission from the pope to do so during a visit to Rome in 1624, under the condition that Copernicanism would be treated purely as a theoretical hypothesis. After receiving approval from the watchful Vatican censors in 1630, Galileo finally published his *Dialogue on the Two Chief World Systems* two years later in 1632.

Dialogue consisted of a series of conversations between three characters, Salviati, Sagredo and Simplicio. Salviati, a Copernican scientist, argues in favour of Galileo's theory, while Sagredo acts as an impartial scholar. Simplicio supports geocentrism and is depicted by Galileo as an idiot, emphasised by Simplicio's derogatory name, which translates to 'simpleton' in Italian. After years of struggle, Galileo's ambition had finally been achieved. His defence of Copernicus was printed in black and white for the world to see. He had deviously disregarded the stipulation that heliocentrism must be portrayed as mere theory - and he had even managed to do it all with the Church's approval. Galileo basked in his success, unaware that his downfall was right around the corner.

Galileo had taken on the Catholic Church all those years ago but now the battlefield was completely different. Copernicanism had not actually been banned until the Inquisition in 1616 and the issue had not been about Galileo himself, rather the threat heliocentrism posed to the power of the papacy. Now Galileo had crossed a line by publicly promoting a theory that had been officially condemned by the Church.

To make matters worse, he had offended his powerful one-time ally, the pope - the one man who could have really helped him. When Pope Urban gave Galileo permission to write his *Dialogue*, he asked that the astronomer include his pro-geocentric arguments in favour of Ptolemy. Galileo's creation of Simplicio insinuated that, along with those who supported the Ptolemaic system, the head of the Church was a fool. He had single-handedly ensured that any help he could have received from Pope Urban was now just a pipe dream.

To save face, the Church needed to make an example of the man who was causing so much trouble. After all, if Galileo could openly express his support for heliocentrism, what would stop others from starting to voice their own interpretations of the Bible and its scriptures? Denounced as a heretic, Galileo was summoned to Rome in 1632 to face trial, while his *Dialogue* was forbidden from sale.

ABOVE
Galileo before the Holy Office in the Vatican, after the Inquisition condemned him

SUNS OF ANARCHY

The other Renaissance hellraisers who put the Sun at the heart of the solar system

NICOLAUS COPERNICUS 1473-1543

It was his support for Copernicus' theories that caused so much controversy for Galileo. Copernicus' model of the universe placed the Sun at the centre rather than Earth and it was therefore at odds with geocentrism. He did not publish his findings, *On the Revolutions of Heavenly Spheres*, until the last year of his life, fearful of the criticism and religious objections he would face. Judging from the punishment Galileo faced decades later, Copernicus was right to be concerned.



TYCHO BRAHE 1546-1601

Brahe's model of the universe was a balancing act. Combining the mathematical aspects of the Copernican model with the philosophical aspects of Ptolemy's, Brahe created the Tychonic system. While he agreed that the Moon and Sun orbited the Earth, his model persisted with the theory that the Earth remained in the centre. It was an acceptable system during the Galileo affair as it explained Galileo's observations of Venus while supporting geocentrism. Brahe was one of the last astronomers to make his observations without a telescope.



JOHANNES KEPLER 1571-1630

In 1596, Kepler created an outstanding defence of Copernicanism with his astronomical book *Mysterium Cosmographicum*. A spiritual man, he attempted to show that the Scriptures could support heliocentrism rather than geocentrism - and he tried to use the Ptolemaic model to demonstrate this. Kepler became Tycho Brahe's assistant, with Brahe influencing Kepler's work and his heliocentric laws of planetary motion. When Galileo published his *Sidereus Nuncius*, Kepler supported his findings and made his own telescopic observations with the Keplerian telescope, which he invented in 1611.



SIR ISAAC NEWTON 1643-1727

Using Kepler's laws of planetary motion, Sir Isaac Newton developed his laws of motion and law of universal gravitation in his work *Philosophiæ Naturalis Principia Mathematica*, published in 1687. This finally confirmed that heliocentrism, not geocentrism, was the correct model of the universe - eight decades after Galileo's death. Newton may have read Galileo's work as a student at Cambridge University, supplementing the teachings of Aristotle, which were still being taught largely as fact. Just like Galileo and Kepler, Newton built his own telescope, creating the world's first reflecting telescope.



THE PISA EXPERIMENT

Try Galileo's ground-breaking gravity test for yourself!

It is likely that Galileo conducted his experiment between 1589 and 1592 as he was a professor of mathematics at the University of Pisa during this time.

To achieve the height he needed for the experiment, Galileo climbed the Leaning Tower of Pisa.

To test his theory, Galileo dropped cannonballs of various different sizes and materials off the tower.

When he dropped two cannonballs of different masses, they hit the ground at the same time, proving his hypothesis.



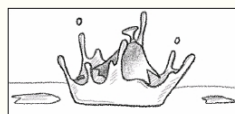
01 WATER BALLOONS

Fill two water balloons up but make sure that they differ in mass – the point of the experiment is to test the time of descent in relation to weight.



02 FIND HIGH GROUND

Galileo climbed the Leaning Tower of Pisa because he needed height for his experiment. The second floor of a modern building should work but make sure that no one is standing underneath the window!



03 HEADS UP!

While you ready yourself to drop the water balloons from the window, someone else needs to be on the ground – out of the splash zone and harm's way – to observe the results.



04 COMPARE YOUR RESULTS

Record the results to see if they hit the ground at the same time, just like in Galileo's experiment. Try repeating the experiment with some heavier and lighter water balloons so that you can compare the outcomes.

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By now, Galileo was almost 70 years old, frail and suffering from poor health. It took him an exhausting five months to reach Rome, so his trial did not begin until in February 1633. When he arrived, he was confined and interrogated as his accusers tried to coax a confession out of him. He had been charged with violating the 1616 injunction against him – something he vehemently denied.

The investigators hoped that by threatening Galileo with the prospect of torture, he would soon relent and admit to his wrongdoings. Instead, he stayed true to his ideas and insisted that he had followed the rules set before him by merely discussing Copernicanism. He even added that his *Dialogue* had been approved by the Church itself. However, after a couple of months, Galileo was struggling to maintain this tricky stance as his health continued to deteriorate. Finally, he gave in and told the investigators what they wanted to hear – that his Copernican argument had been too forceful.

The weak and elderly scientist clung to the hope that the Inquisition would take pity on him, considering his age and condition, but he had no such luck. In June, Galileo was convicted of heresy and forced to publicly renounce his support for Copernicus' theory and heliocentrism. At the same time, he also had to announce that he wholeheartedly believed in the Ptolemaic system, with the Earth well and truly positioned

at the centre of the universe. Meanwhile, his *Dialogue* was officially placed on the Church's list of prohibited books.

Galileo's punishment did not end there. Initially given life imprisonment, his sentence was commuted to house arrest and he spent the rest of his life cooped up in a Florentine villa. But this did not prevent him from continuing to work on his theories, even though he was slowly going blind. Choosing a less controversial topic, Galileo returned to his investigation into mechanics. During his last years, he wrote one of his most famous works, *Dialogues Concerning Two New Sciences*. This magnum opus summarised approximately three decades of Galileo's research in the field of physics, including his ideas on the laws of motion.

As for the Catholic Church, it would take them over three centuries to admit that Galileo had been right all along. Despite the obstacles he faced, there is no doubt that Galileo helped to establish science in the intellectual world, even if this was not achieved during his lifetime. It is a testament to the man's tenacity that 80 years after his death, his heliocentric theories were eventually vindicated by another great scientific mind, Isaac Newton. Galileo continues to be a scientific inspiration to this day. In 1989, an unmanned spacecraft sent to study Jupiter and its moons was named after the Italian scientist, so his legacy lives on – even in the stars.

BELOW
Galileo's tomb, located at the Santa Croce Basilica in Florence, Italy



© Getty Images, Ed Crooks

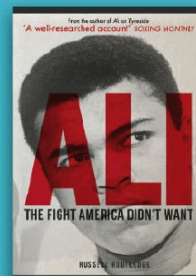
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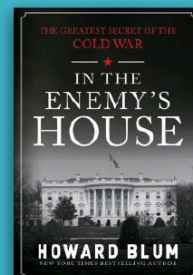
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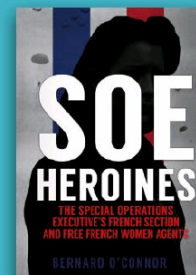
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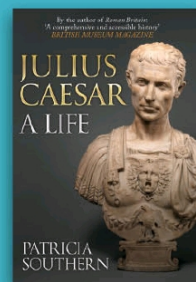
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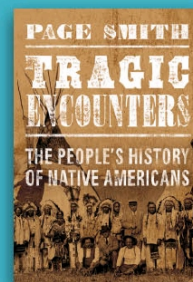
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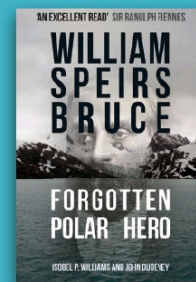
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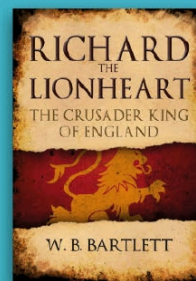
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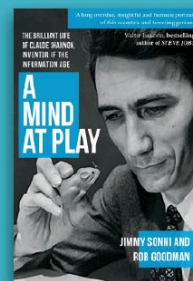
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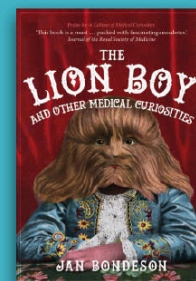
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Don't call me PRINCESS

The creator of the internet sensation *Rejected Princesses* shares ten unsung heroines and hellions that Disney would never touch

Written by Jason Porath



Gracia's showing cross-stamped coins but conceals 18 Star of David-stamped coins behind her back

Out of the way, Ariel! Take a seat, Snow White! There's a new group of princesses in town but they are nothing like the Disney damsels. The blog-turned-book series *Rejected Princesses*, celebrating women too awesome, awful or offbeat for kids movies, has become hugely popular. Its writer and illustrator, Jason Porath, reveals some of his favourites.

Gracia Mendes Nasi

The Oskar Schindler of the Inquisition
1510-69

Targeted by the brutal Spanish, Portuguese and Italian Inquisitions, non-Catholics living in southern Europe were subject to torture by mob, ransacking, and ultimately expulsion from their home countries. However, the Jews of this period had a guardian angel looking over them: wealthy shipping magnate (and smuggler) Gracia Mendes Nasi. Born Beatriz de Luna, she had, like many others, to keep her religion a secret. But as she got more involved with the running of her merchant husband's business, she grew emboldened to do exactly what she wanted - Inquisitors be damned. When the Inquisition began, she established a massive network of safe houses, spies, and messengers to shuttle refugees from as far away as Lisbon to Jew-friendly Constantinople. She eventually moved to Constantinople herself and began living openly as a Jew, using her Jewish name of Gracia. She even tried establishing a fledgling Jewish state in what is modern-day Tiberias, Israel. She helped so many hundreds of people and did so much good, that several people thought she might be the Jewish messiah. Much of the Sephardic Jewish population of today owes its continued existence to her exhaustive work.

Don't Call Me Princess

Nzinga Mbande

The mother of Angola 1583-1663

Here's how the legend goes: the Portuguese had invaded the African nation of Ndongo (present-day Angola) and taken its king prisoner. The king's sister, Nzinga, approached them for negotiations but when she arrived, they didn't offer her a chair. Unperturbed, she ordered a servant to get on all fours and sat on their back, like a stool. After the meeting, she slit the servant's throat in full view of everyone, declaring that "the queen of Ndongo does not use the same chair twice". She then moved south, conquered a tribe of cannibals and waged war on the Portuguese for 35 years. While some details of her story are definitely sketchy - she almost certainly didn't slit anyone's throat - it's a testament to her formidable reputation that those are the rumours that got spread about her. After decades of her waging economic and military war against them, the Portuguese eventually negotiated a peace treaty. There are statues of her all over Angola to this day.



In reality, she probably sat on a female servant

"She did what any good mother would do - she deposed him and took the reins herself"

Masako Hojo

The nun who became shogun
1156-1225

From early on, Masako Hojo made sure to let everyone know she was not a woman to be trifled with. When her shogun husband cheated on her, she raised an army and destroyed the other woman's house in a move referred to as *uwanari-uchi* - literally translated as 'strike of the after-wife'. She was so respected and feared that when her husband died, rumours spread that her detached spirit had somehow haunted him to death - though in truth, she appears to have loved him rather intensely to the end of her days. After her husband died, she entered a monastery. But when her son proved himself an incompetent tyrant who couldn't run the country or properly fend off assassins, she did what any good mother would do - she deposed him and took the reins herself, becoming the first and only nun to rule Japan.



The nun shogun herself, seen here directing the destruction of the home of her husband's mistress

Amanirenas

The one-eyed queen who fought Rome tooth and nail c.60-c.10 BCE

In the early 1900s, archaeologists in Sudan uncovered a temple belonging to the ancient kingdom of Kush. To the surprise of everyone, resting inside the temple, hundreds of miles from the borders of the Roman Empire, lay a well-preserved head of Emperor Augustus, separated from the rest of the statue. The story of this decapitated head dates back to the time of Cleopatra where, in the wake of her death, certain Roman factions set their aims south of Egypt. Countering them was a fearsome one-eyed Nubian queen, Amanirenas. Seeing her neighbours attacked, she pre-emptively sacked two major Roman cities, took captives and defaced many of Augustus' statues. Rome's counter-attack was swift and brutal, destroying the Kushite capital city, but Amanirenas fought on, likely using some terrifying tactics: other Kushite rulers were known to have fed captives to lions, or bringing war elephants to battle. Perhaps Amanirenas did the same. In the end, Rome agreed to lasting peace, without making them pay tribute. Never again did Rome venture south of Egypt.



Noor's father taught Sufism in Western Europe

The name 'Candace' comes from the word for female Kushite rulers: kandake



Noor Inayat Khan

The Indian princess who became a British spy 1914-44

There were few people less likely to become a British spy. Noor Inayat Khan was an honest-to-god Indian princess, a klutzy children's book author and a Sufi Muslim mystic - which meant she was a strict pacifist who couldn't lie. But when the Nazis took Paris, she gave everything up and joined the war effort as a spy. Assigned to be a radio operator in occupied Paris, she was thought of as basically cannon fodder: the average lifespan for that job was six weeks and her instructors doubted she'd even last that. Making things worse, the entire Parisian operation was arrested on her second day in Paris - leaving her alone. But she refused offers of extradition and proceeded to crush it at her job. Changing routes, appearances and everything about herself, she lasted five months before being betrayed and arrested. She went down kicking, punching and screaming, despite being a lifelong pacifist. She lied under torture, despite being a Sufi mystic, forbidden to lie. She nimbly ran across roofs in escape attempts, despite being a klutz. She gave the Nazis absolutely nothing. She died before a firing squad weeks before her concentration camp was liberated. Reportedly her last word, shouted at her executors, was "Liberté". She was 30 years old.

Many streets, schools, and even military units across the Middle East bear her name



Khawlah bint al-Azwar

Warrior poet of early Islam 7th century

The rider in black had surprised everyone. The forces of early Islam were on a mission to rescue their comrade Dirar from the Christian Byzantines, when a mysterious soldier clad in black and green rushed forth, mowing down Romans like grass. When the commander finally tracked down the soldier, drenched in blood like "a crimson rose petal", their identity was uncovered: Khawlah bint al-Azwar, sister of the captured Dirar. She went on to help free her brother and then settled back down a bit, helping out as a nurse. That is until she, too, was captured by the Byzantines, along with a group of middle-aged women. While her fellow captives were resigned to their fate, she rallied them, suggesting they uproot the poles holding up their tent and fight their way out. As they did so, they let loose with diss poems such as "We have decided that today we will rectify your brains with these tent-pegs and shorten your life-spans, thus removing a spot of disgrace from your ancestors' faces". Her escape so impressed the Byzantine commander that he offered to marry her on the spot and be her master. Her verbatim reply: "You wretched unbelieving son of an unchaste adulterer! By Allah! I will take this peg and gouge your eyes out. You are not even worthy of herding my camels and sheep, let alone claim to be my equal!" If you're thinking at this point that you want to be best friends with her, well, get in line.

"THEY HAVE TO HAVE AGENCY"

Former DreamWorks animator Jason Porath reveals how he picks the fascinating women for his hit series



of a scamp. I put it to my coworkers that we could come up with much worse role models and brainstormed on who the most candidate for an animated princess could be.

While many of the suggestions were purely black humour, I also tossed out a number of historical figures, like Boudicca and Nzinga Mbande, neither of whom were familiar to anyone at the table. I thought that was a shame and I wanted to see it exist, so I started drawing. It went viral, I got a book deal, and here we are.

What do you look for in a candidate?

Three things: they have to have agency, personality and conflict. If they lack agency, it's a tragedy. If they lack personality, it's boring. If they lack conflict, it's a resume. Beyond that, I look for people from cultures I don't know much about because it's a great way to learn about other societies and periods of history, to find out about their greatest heroes (or villains). I don't search for women worthy of emulation or derision, per se - I look for people who have interesting stories.

How do you go about doing your research?

I keep a massive spreadsheet of everyone I've ever considered. It has a summary of their story, ethnicity, era, what part of the world they frequented and special representations like LGBT, religion and disability. From there, I'll often start on Wikipedia and Google Books to get as close to the original source materials as possible. Then it's usually off to the library, JSTOR or archive.org.

I'm constantly limited by the number of languages I know and the limited scholarship available on certain areas of the world. There's no shortage of historians covering World War II and Ancient Rome, but try getting anything on pre-colonial Africa or South America and you're rolling the dice. Even major Korean, Chinese and Japanese historical documents are often not translated to English, or only in limited fashion. It's maddening.

Each of your illustrations wonderfully brings the characters to life. How do you decide on what to include in your art?

I'll do all my book research first and then often do some visual research to see what the objects in their world looked like - what type of clothes they wore, what ships they sailed, what they looked like. Then I'll list out all the major points of their story that stood out to me, and some characteristics of their personality. From there, I try to put as many of them in one picture as possible, ideally by finding some visual metaphor for the lesson I found in their life.

How do you think these women bucked the trend of 'great' historical figures, typically presented as male?

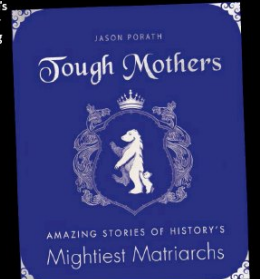
If there's a difference in how men are portrayed, I'd argue it's that history books are more comfortable with men having flaws. Coverage of Ada Lovelace often leaves out that she was an opiate addict. Coverage of Helen Keller leaves out that she was a socialist firebrand. Coverage of Joan of Arc leaves out that she was a terrifying warlord. Somewhere along the line, Genghis Khan and Timur had their accomplishments taken in sum total, whereas the lives of Malinche and Ranavalona I are often still talked about uncritically.

Your new book, *Tough Mothers*, focuses on history's incredible matriarchs. Why did you choose to highlight them specifically?

I think the social construct of motherhood is fairly limiting: about the most hurtful thing you can call a mother is to say she's a 'bad mum'. The pressure is suffocating. It's the norm for them to do this enormous amount of labour, sacrificing everything, and they're still undervalued and underestimated. I wanted to show motherhood in its many incarnations, and show just how much our mothers and grandmothers went through.

Are there any women today who you think would make great *Rejected Princesses*?

I try not to cover modern-day figures because the dust hasn't settled. I look at Benazir Bhutto in all her messy, frustrating, corrupt glory in *Tough Mothers* but I prefer to be able to take a longer view on their life. Moreover, many admirable figures, like Malala Yousafzai, are already being lionised in their lifetimes, and I tend to focus on more obscure people. However, I'd love to explore confederate-flag-snatcher Bree Newsome, child-marriage-abolisher Theresa Kachindamoto and the late royal-turned-opium-smuggler Olive Yang down the line. I'm also hugely curious as to what the #NeverAgain activists, particularly Emma Gonzalez, will do in the future.



Tough Mothers: Amazing Stories of History's Mightiest Matriarchs celebrates the women from history with fierce maternal instincts. The book is released on 17 May in the UK.



Khutulun

The undefeated wrestler princess c.1260-c.1306

Genghis Khan's great-great-granddaughter had one rule: if you wanted to marry her, you had to beat her in wrestling and if you lost, you owed her 100 horses. She ended up with 10,000 horses and no husband. An expert equestrian, archer and athlete, Khutulun was famous for splitting off from the Mongol forces and quickly picking off enemies, just to intimidate them. She left quite the impression on historical tourists like Marco Polo and Rashid al-Din. She even shows up in the Netflix series *Marco Polo*, although her character there is an utter betrayal of her historical personage: the on-screen woman is immediately thrust into a Romeo-and-Juliet relationship that never existed. Sad as this is, it's hardly the first time her story has been warped - she is also the inspiration for the story, and later opera, *Turandot*. In that European retelling of her life, she becomes a woman who challenges her suitors with riddles instead of wrestling, killing them if they lose. The opera is about her finally giving in to love. While the West may continue mangling her legacy, the Mongolians of today still find ways to subtly revere her. Notably, traditional Mongolian wrestler outfits are open-chested to show that the contestant is not a woman, in deference to the undefeated Khutulun.

"While the West may continue mangling her legacy, the Mongolians of today still find ways to subtly revere her"

Julie d'Aubigny

The sword-slinger who burnt down a convent to seduce a nun 1670-1707

Julie d'Aubigny - known better in her time as La Maupin - was the closest thing humanity's ever come to producing a real-life Bugs Bunny. This bisexual opera singer flirted and fought her way across Europe, dressing in men's clothes and seducing men and women with abandon. When one of her female lovers was spirited off to a nunnery by her overprotective father, Maupin entered the convent herself... and set it on fire to aid their escape. Three months later, she dropped her lover back off with her father and ran off into the night. She went on to get into so many duels she had to twice be pardoned by Louis XIV, who mused that the anti-dueling laws governed men but said nothing of women. Her real story is difficult to untangle from fiction - her biography was often related as a morality tale with her turning from her wanton ways late in life, rejoining her husband and dying aged around 37.



The Red Shirts, as Garibaldi's armies were named, took their design from Anita's sewing



Anita Garibaldi

The mum who fought in three revolutionary wars 1821-49

It's a rare thing to find a woman who fights in a revolutionary war, and it's rarer still to find one who fights in two. Rarest of all, one who fights in three. Yet Anita Garibaldi did just that - while pregnant. A Brazilian woman married to an alcoholic soldier, she had few prospects until Italian revolutionary Giuseppe Garibaldi came to town. The bad boy of 1830s Latin America, Garibaldi aimed to rid Brazil of Portuguese rule and get help in waging a similar war for Italy's independence. The two immediately caught each other's eyes and before long, Anita had left her husband and joined Garibaldi's crew. Not content to merely be a historical plus one, she manned cannons, fought raiders, protected the horses, stole arms and marched through rain and snow, often while carrying their children. She fought in wars to free Uruguay and Italy but eventually succumbed to malaria during her fight. She went out in a blaze of glory: pregnant with her fifth child, slashing at soldiers on horseback, riding on with such fervour that one enemy later remarked, "Is that a woman or is it the devil?"



Ada Blackjack

The sole survivor of an ill-fated expedition to the Arctic 1898-1983

It was a dumb, dumb plan. A bunch of overconfident explorers were going to claim Wrangel Island - a desolate wasteland 300 kilometres northeast of Siberia - for Britain, although the country didn't want it. To that end, they tried to hire as many Inuit helpers as they could, which was just one in the end: Ada Blackjack. She'd grown up in cities and didn't have any of the sewing or trapping skills they needed, but she went anyway as she needed money for her sick son. The expedition went horribly, with the team stranded there for two years instead of the one they'd planned for. As the team split up, Ada was left to care for one member who was dying of scurvy. She taught herself to shoot, trap and improvise, and kept him alive far longer than anyone could have expected. When the rescue ship finally came, she was the only survivor - but her trials didn't end there. The ship's captain began spreading rumours that she was a prostitute and had let the men die while eating their food. Despite her hatred of the spotlight, she travelled from Alaska to Los Angeles to give an on-the-record interview destroying the captain's story, and then disappeared back north, living an anonymous life into her 80s.

TO HELL AND BACK AGAIN

During World War II, Corporal Roy Pagani dodged almost certain death in Dunkirk, Singapore and on the horrific Burma Railway

Written by Philip Davies

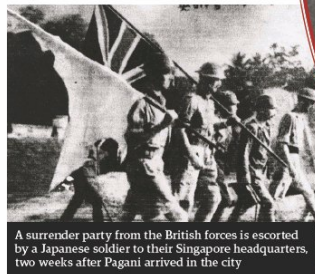
"My father was a remarkable man. Having escaped alone from Dunkirk and again from Singapore, he was the only European to escape successfully from the appalling Burma Railway. Most people think that no one ever did, but my dad managed it. Over 13,000 Allied prisoners of war died building the railway - 393 men for every mile of track laid. My dad was determined not to be one of them. I am so proud of him."

Not surprisingly, Cheb Campbell becomes very emotional when she recalls her father, Corporal Roy Pagani, and his exploits as a British soldier during World War II. The war cast a long shadow and left a lasting legacy for her and her family.

"What sustained my Dad and enabled him to endure so much was the promise he made to my mum. He vowed that whatever happened, and no matter what befell him, or however long it took, he would find his way back to her." Little did he realise then that he would have to endure hair-raising escapes, guerrilla fighting, incarceration, agonising torture and an appalling death march to make



"Yours until death": Pagani's main aim was to get back to his wife



A surrender party from the British forces is escorted by a Japanese soldier to their Singapore headquarters, two weeks after Pagani arrived in the city

good his promise - a promise that was to save his life when he despaired of survival.

"Dad was incredibly tough and self-confident. He was forced to learn this from a very early age. Abandoned by his father in the south of France at the age of seven, he was rescued by a nun and he spent his childhood in a boy's convent near Toulon. They taught him to be resourceful and self-reliant - all the things that would stand him in good stead later on in life. He always said that these were the most wonderful days of his life.

"After returning to England as a teenager, he joined the East Surrey Regiment. Just a week before the outbreak of war, he married my mum, Thelma, who everyone called Pip."

In May 1940, Pagani was part of the fighting retreat of the British Expeditionary Force to Bray Dunes, near Dunkirk, where he booby-trapped his lorry with a grenade. Being a loner at heart, he refused to join everyone else and head for Dunkirk but struck out alone looking for a boat. He found one, sailed it to England single-handed and four days later he reached the little east coast village of Shingle Street. After hitching a lift to Ipswich, he took a train to Colchester and then walked to his mother-in-law's house. "When she opened the door to him, she fainted," says Cheb. Determined to get back into action, he eventually joined the newly formed 18th Reconnaissance Regiment. In late October 1941, he set sail for the Far East on the ill-fated Empress of Asia, which was dive-bombed with its precious cargo of arms and equipment within sight of Singapore. As the ship blazed and listed, Pagani leapt back on board to retrieve his rifle



Pagani refused to wait to be rescued on the bombarded beaches at Dunkirk



Allied prisoners of war after they've been rescued in Burma

and pack in which he kept his treasured photos of his wife and young son. Just two weeks after arriving, the British surrendered. But once again, Pagani decided to break away from the herd and resolved to escape.

At the docks, he found a sampan full of fish manure, invited four others to join him, and set sail as the city was consumed by fire and explosions. After island hopping, their frail craft was hit by a massive tropical cyclone. Hanging on for dear life, they were inundated by the full force of the storm. They were lucky to survive and they reached Sumatra and what they believed was

safety - but their hopes were short-lived. The Japanese were close behind and after attempting to hijack an old steam tug, Pagani was seized by the Japanese and drafted into a labour battalion.

It was a grim awakening to what lay ahead. Death was an everyday occurrence and Cheb recalls how "he never got over having to sit with the dying, and then having to wash the dead body, plug the orifices, and then carry the corpse sewn into a rucksack slung between two poles to the burial site."

Pagani was taken by ship to Thanbyuzayat, the base camp for the infamous Burma railway.

"HOWEVER LONG IT TOOK, HE WOULD FIND HIS WAY BACK TO HER"

JAPAN IN BURMA

9 DECEMBER 1941

Though Thailand had adopted a neutral position in World War II, it is eventually occupied by Japan. The nation is of great strategic importance as it means Japan can cut off Allied supplies from India.

16 DECEMBER 1941

Soon after its conquest of Bangkok, Japan sets its sights on Burma and invades the British possession on 16 December. Japan eventually captures the capital, Yangon, on 8 March 1942.

15 FEBRUARY 1942

After a week-long siege, the weary British surrender possession of Singapore. Defence of the island is apparently poorly planned, and the Allies are no match for the battle-hardened Japanese.

MAY 1942

When it becomes obvious that the Allies can't best Japan in Burma, the last of the British forces still in the country retreat into British India to ponder their next move.

MAY 1942

Deciding that the Thailand-Burma railway is going to be vital to their success, the Japanese get to work building the line. Allied prisoners of war start being shipped out of Changi prison, Singapore, to do the hard manual labour.

JUNE 1942

Prisoners of war are sent to both ends of the railway line - some were sent to Burma and others to Thailand. When they arrive, they have to start work immediately. Some have to march for hundreds of miles through dense jungle just to get to their base camp.

1 AUGUST 1943

To appease mounting local discontent with Japanese occupation, Japan declares Burma the independent State of Burma, theoretically releasing it from British colonialism. However, this is merely a facade.

17 OCTOBER 1943

The two teams working from Burma and Thailand join the railway together just south of the Three Pagodas Pass. It's said there is a special ceremony in which Japanese officers are presented with special medals for their efforts.

27 MARCH 1945

Cooperating with the British, the Burmese Army launches a national uprising to get rid of the Japanese soldiers in their country. Their goal is to win true independence for Burma.

3 MAY 1945

Indian and Commonwealth forces successfully retake Yangon in Operation Dracula. Time is of the essence as the Allies want to recapture Burma before the monsoon rains begin.

He was determined to escape. Short and stocky, he calculated that he could disguise himself as a local and practised walking barefoot for miles to harden his feet. The camp was unfenced, as the Japanese believed that the prospects of any European escaping across an Asiatic country covered in dense jungle were minimal. Cheb explains, "One day in mid-November 1942, he simply said to his mates, 'Well, so long then, I'm off', before melting into the trees." Feigning sickness that day, he was able to join the daily working party late and, crucially, without an escort, and he disappeared into the jungle.

After several close shaves - including walking straight into a Japanese patrol - Pagani made his way north with the help of various local families. This assistance proved invaluable in bypassing Moulmein, which was swarming with Japanese troops. Soon lying up outside a small village, he noticed that the population was noticeably different from other Burmese he had come across. They were Karens, an indigenous hill tribe that had long offered its loyal service to the British in Burma. He decided to seek their help - a fateful decision that would save his life.

Knocking on the door, he was astonished to be introduced to a young girl who spoke impeccable English. Invited in, and plied with tea and biscuits, he was introduced to her father, an

eminent Karen, who was in touch with Karen guerrillas in the hills. They were led by a mysterious British officer who had remained far behind the Japanese lines to lead a resistance army of Karens. This was Major Hugh Seagrim, the man who was destined to become the TE Lawrence of Burma.

Hidden under a reeking pile of manure, Pagani was taken in a cart up into the hills to join Seagrim. Cheb remembers her father describing their extraordinary meeting. "Tall, thin and dressed like a Karen, the major raised his hand, jumped down and said to my dad 'Hello, old chap', as if welcoming him to a country mansion".

Pagani became Seagrim's right-hand man and was tasked with whipping the guerrilla Karen force into shape. Together they fought a hit-and-run campaign against the Japanese but the escalating manhunt for Seagrim forced them to separate, at which point Pagani reverted to his original plan to escape right across Burma to rejoin the Allies in India.

He almost made it but he was caught trying to cross the mighty Irrawaddy River and he was almost hacked to pieces by a howling Burmese mob before being handed over to the Japanese soldiers. Painfully, Cheb explains how, "tormented by agony from his open wounds, he contemplated suicide. But he suddenly

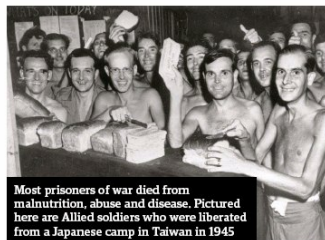


Roy Pagani, aged 86, meets Countess Mountbatten in 2002

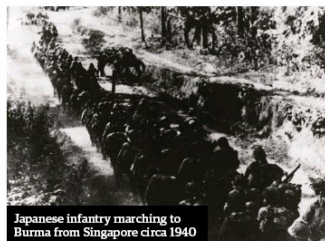
remembered his promise to my mother that he would return to her and so he forced himself to bear the pain".

Worse lay ahead. He was taken to Rangoon and handed over to the Japanese military police - the dreaded kempeitai. For months he was beaten, tortured and abused, but he never broke. One day, without warning, he was thrown into the back of a lorry to what he believed was his execution before being dumped at Rangoon City Jail. Here he slowly recovered, helping his fellow prisoners of war by stealing food from the Japanese.

As the war neared its end, yet another ordeal lay ahead. In April 1945, over 400 of the fittest prisoners, including Pagani, were forced to march east on a gruelling death march. Stragglers were shot by the wayside. Believing them to be Japanese, Allied planes mistakenly strafed the



Most prisoners of war died from malnutrition, abuse and disease. Pictured here are Allied soldiers who were liberated from a Japanese camp in Taiwan in 1945



Japanese infantry marching to Burma from Singapore circa 1940

THE DEADLY BURMA RAILWAY

A torturous project that killed thousands of POWs

THE WAY AHEAD

Although only around 112 kilometres of the so-called 'Death Railway' actually ran through Burma, it had a lasting legacy on the region. Japan needed to ferry supplies between occupied Bangkok and Yangon (once known as Rangoon), but the approximately 3,200-kilometre sea route was filled with enemy ships and the mountainous region separating Burma and Thailand was thought to be too dangerous to build a railway, as steep drops and rapid rivers stood in the way. The project began at Thanbyuzaat, connecting to an existing line.

MEET IN THE MIDDLE

Construction started at both ends, with the intention of joining up at a midpoint along the planned route. The two sets of railway builders met up just south of the Three Pagodas Pass, a gap in the Tenasserim Hills, marking the modern-day borders between Thailand and Myanmar. Today, there is a memorial to the thousands of Australian and other Allied citizens who died building the railway, and a short original section can still be seen.



HELLFIRE PASS

This section of railway was particularly notorious. Aside from the fact the prisoners of war had to cut through the rock using only rudimentary tools, they suffered incredibly harsh treatment at the hands of their Japanese captors. Forced to work up to 18 hours a day, the sight of sick and dying workers under torchlight was said to resemble something in hell. As well as prisoners of war, many Tamil labourers came to assist the Japanese on the false promise of good jobs. Their deaths often go unrecorded.

ON THE RIVER KWAI

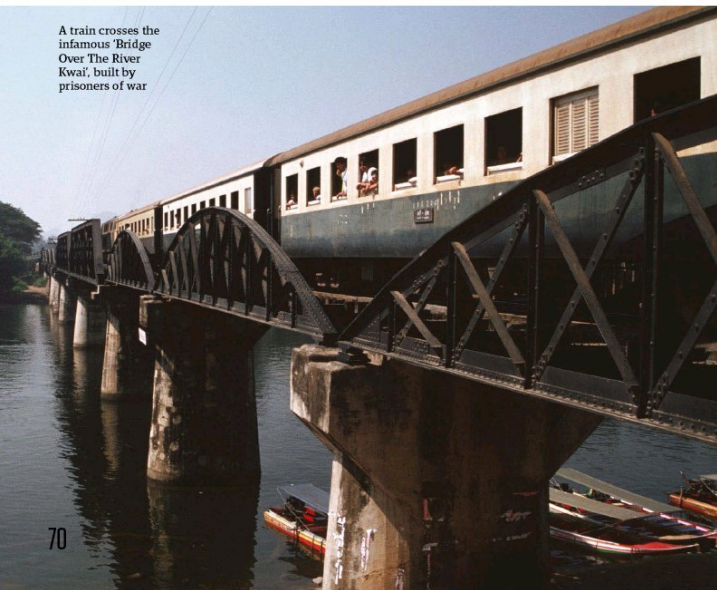
Prisoners of war constructed a bridge over the Mae Klong river at the town of Kanchanaburi. Building this was a nearly impossible feat and it's made all the more impressive by the fact it was completed in just one year, from October 1942 to 1943. The cost was high, though, and locals believe that one soldier died for every single railway sleeper crossing the bridge. The story of the bridge was later dramatised in a 1957 film, *The Bridge on the River Kwai*.

END OF THE LINE

Just 72 kilometres from Thailand's capital, Bangkok, the railway's other end was on the banks of the Mae Klong river at the town of Ban Pong. Today, a small carved stone is the only monument that marks the start of this once awful journey. From Ban Pong, you can take a train following the tracks of the original railway for 120 kilometres, which will get you almost to Hellfire Pass.

"HE ... PRACTISED WALKING BAREFOOT FOR MILES TO HARDEN HIS FEET"

A train crosses the infamous 'Bridge Over The River Kwai', built by prisoners of war



column but in the nick of time they were rescued by advancing British troops. At last, Cheb's father was a free man.

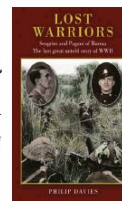
Reunited with his wife and young family, Cheb explains how her father coped. "He simply put it all behind him and moved on with his life, eventually setting up a taxi firm in Clacton. Although it left deep physical and psychological scars, until the last few years of his life, he never spoke about the war. There were obvious effects though - he could not abide being barefoot or the sound of a dripping tap, having been subjected to the hideous Japanese water torture. Other than towards mum, he found it difficult to show affection to us. He would pull away if we hugged him for too long."

"When I was younger," she continues, "I wanted to find out more about what he had actually done. I got a book from the library but he didn't want to talk about it. Once when we were in France, he thought he saw a Japanese guard from the camp and went for him in the street. Beneath the surface, the scars ran deep. He worshipped Hugh Seagrim and, like the Karens, thought him saint."

"Dad retained a life-long love for the Karens. Well into his 70s, he returned twice to Burma and the Karen hills - once with my younger sister, Michelle, and a year later with my mum. At his funeral, the Karens came and sang beautiful songs that had been recorded in the camp he had visited."

There were no obituaries. Long since forgotten, Roy Pagani was a man of unimpeachable courage who deserves to stand in the front rank of Britain's war heroes. His stoicism and self-belief in the face of unspeakable suffering bear testament to the triumph of the human spirit in the face of impossible odds. But to his daughter, Cheb Campbell, he was simply "my dad".

Philip Davies is the author of *Lost Warriors: Seagrim and Pagani of Burma*, published by Atlantic Publishing.



©Cathy Higgs

Time Traveller's Handbook

SPARTA

Ancient Greece, C. 800 - 192 BCE

This Ancient Greek state is a world where discipline rules. In a society that prides itself on its warriors, boys as young as seven are already undergoing the agōgē, a strict education and training regime that is compulsory for all male Spartans except the king's firstborn son.

It is a society of three parts. At the top sit the Spartans, who enjoy a state-financed education regardless of their gender, with each man expected to do his bit to make Sparta great. In the middle are the perioikoi, who were craftspeople and weapon smiths, and at the bottom are the helots, enslaved prisoners responsible for performing the chores and labour that the Spartan men, busy training and fighting, cannot.

This is a state that expects loyalty from every citizen. Built on war, its enemies are many and its appetite for conquering is undiminished. Tread carefully here.



FIG.01

WHERE TO STAY

Unfortunately, Spartans don't put a lot of emphasis on luxury hotels and mod cons, so why not join the locals and stay in a Spartan barracks? These quarters are the home of Spartan boys from the age of seven until their 30th birthday. They can't even leave it when they get married - they are expected to sneak out at night to visit their wives! You don't get much privacy in the communal barracks but there's plenty to do during your stay. With a rigidly structured physical training programme compulsory for every resident, you'll never be at a loss for how to spend your time.

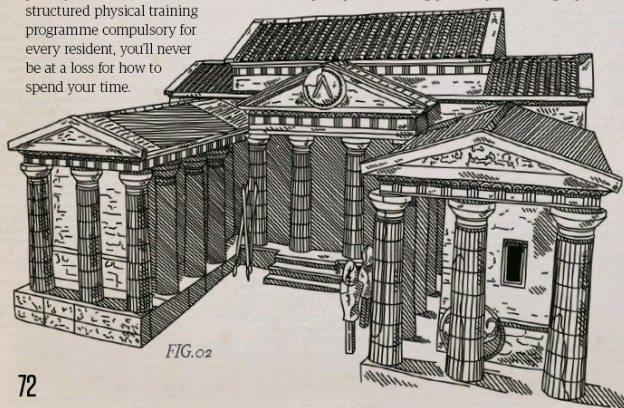


FIG.02

Dos & don'ts

✓ Grow your hair long
Spartan men grow their hair long and style it before battle. It's a cheap and eye-catching way of adding flair to your fearsome look!

✓ Cut down on clothes
To look like a warrior, throw off your clothes and don the obligatory scarlet cape.

✓ Join in with activities
Spartan society places a great deal of emphasis on working together for the good of all - everyone is expected to do their bit.

✓ Laugh along with the locals Don't miss the rituals in which Spartan girls entertain with comical songs about the men they know!

✗ Expect to see your spouse
Though you'll be able to marry from the age of 20, you can't live with your spouse. Husbands have to sneak out of barracks to enjoy a tryst!

✗ Expect to be well fed
Food is rationed to keep warriors trim. Whatever you do, don't put on any weight or you'll become a target of public ridicule!

✗ Admit you're foreign
While foreigners can live in Sparta, they can't hold official positions. They don't have any rights and are subject to expulsion at any time.

✗ Surrender in battle
A Spartan who surrenders commits the most grievous sin imaginable. Even mothers tell their sons to return from war a soldier or die trying.

WHO TO BEFRIEND

Leonidas

Leonidas I is Sparta's warrior king, the son of Anaxandridas II. Although the king's firstborn son was exempt from the agōgē, as third son, Leonidas didn't just train - he excelled. The notoriously strict regime forged him into a fearsome warrior and a leader with a talent for diplomacy as well as war. Leonidas I led the combined Greek armies against Persia's attempted invasion in 481 BCE and became a hero to his people when he died surrounded by the enemy at the Battle of Thermopylae. Fearsome, loyal and a born strategist, you can expect him to lay down his life for his land.

Extra tip: Don't mention sibling rivalry if you want to stay on Leonidas's good side. His elder brothers, Cleomenes and Dorieus, were born to different mothers and fought bitterly over who should succeed to the throne. When Cleomenes was proclaimed king, the furious Dorieus left Sparta for good.

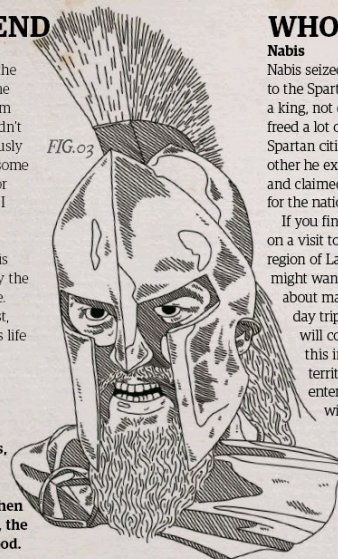


FIG.03

WHO TO AVOID

Nabis

Nabis seized power in 207 BCE by executing his two fellow claimants to the Spartan throne. Though Nabis likes to think of himself as a king, not everyone looks on him so kindly. On the one hand he freed a lot of slaves and made them Spartan citizens, but on the other he exiled the rich and claimed their estates for the nation.

If you find yourself on a visit to the region of Laconia, you might want to think about making it a day trip - Nabis will cost Sparta this important territory by entering a dispute with the Romans that will end in war.

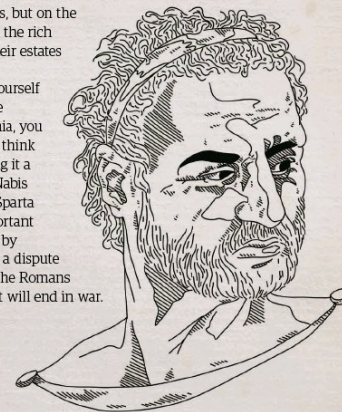


FIG.04

Helpful skills

Religious ritual

The Spartans honour the god Carneus with Carneia, a national harvest festival and suspension of military operations. The festival begins with an athletic display and culminates with the sacrifice of a ram.

Metal work

While you won't enjoy the same rights as other Spartans if you become a perioiko blacksmith, your work forging weaponry will be vital to Sparta's military might.



FIG.05

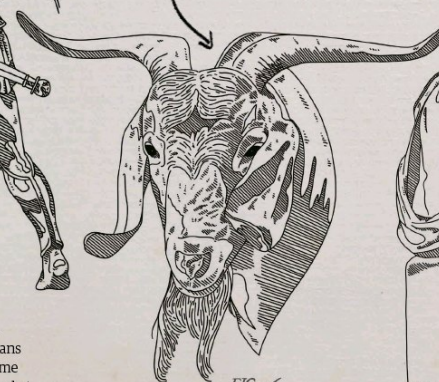


FIG.06

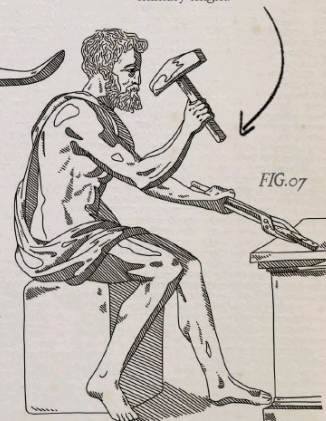


FIG.07

Military training

Warrior training favours the rough and tumble. Barefoot and near-naked, Spartans are taught to live off the land and become masters of hand-to-hand and armed combat.

What if...

Spain conquered China?

In the late 16th century, Spain had made significant inroads in Asia – but a new generation of conquistadors thought Philip II should take on the Ming dynasty

Written by Jonathan O'Callaghan

INTERVIEW WITH... SAMUEL HAWLEY



A former associate professor at Yonsei University in South Korea, Samuel Hawley is the author of *The Imjin War: Japan's Sixteenth-Century Invasion of Korea and Attempt to Conquer China*, the most comprehensive English account of the war.

How did Spain come to consider invading China in the 16th century?

The Spanish were moving into Asia. After their conquest of the New World, they had established themselves in the Philippines. So in the 1560s, they were seriously looking to conquer China. You had these two forces – one from Japan, and the other from Europe – and they were both off the shores of China, looking to possibly conquer it.

Why did they want to conquer China?

They saw it as easy pickings. The Ming dynasty was huge and China was vastly wealthy but the Spanish felt that the Ming were not that strong. They looked big on paper but militarily they were really clumsy. If there was an external threat, it took them a long time to get their armies together and actually respond. So the Spanish saw this as something they could do, just like the Japanese felt they could conquer China. Two different entities saw China as weak and ripe for the picking.

What was there to gain by invading China?

There was so much wealth in China – it was the centre of the world. Spain would have been a huge player in Asia, the same as they were in the New World. But in Asia there would have been more forces to rise against them, whereas they completely dominated the New World. The Spanish would have been in for a long, hard fight to keep hold of what they had conquered.

So who were the main players on the Spanish side?

This was a next generation of conquistadors (like Martín de Rada and Diego de Artieda). The Spanish

had already swept up the New World. They went to Asia, because the Americas had been cut up into *encomiendas* [giving Spanish settlers the rights to an area, while forcing indigenous peoples to work for settlers]. They all wanted a big chunk of land entirely for themselves.

What was their plan for the invasion?

A surprisingly small force [a few hundred to a few thousand men]. They were looking to head up to the Northern Luzon in the Philippines, build some ships up there, and sail across the sea to the southeastern coast of China. They would establish a beachhead there, and then start working their way inland to see how far they could get. It was astonishing when you read about some of their early plans. They just wanted a few hundred men – that's all they needed. It sounds crazy but that's what [Hernán] Cortés did [in the Americas]. The Spanish had nothing if not *hutzpah*.

Was it quite meticulously planned out?

Yes, they went through more than one plan – and these were serious plans. One of the interesting things was they weren't even going to make their own cannonballs, they were going to buy them from the Chinese because they could get them so much cheaper. So they were going to use Chinese cannonballs to conquer the Chinese, which was ironic. As the 1570s gave way to the 1580s, they saw the difficulties becoming greater, so they needed to act now – or at least that's what they kept saying to King Philip II in Madrid.

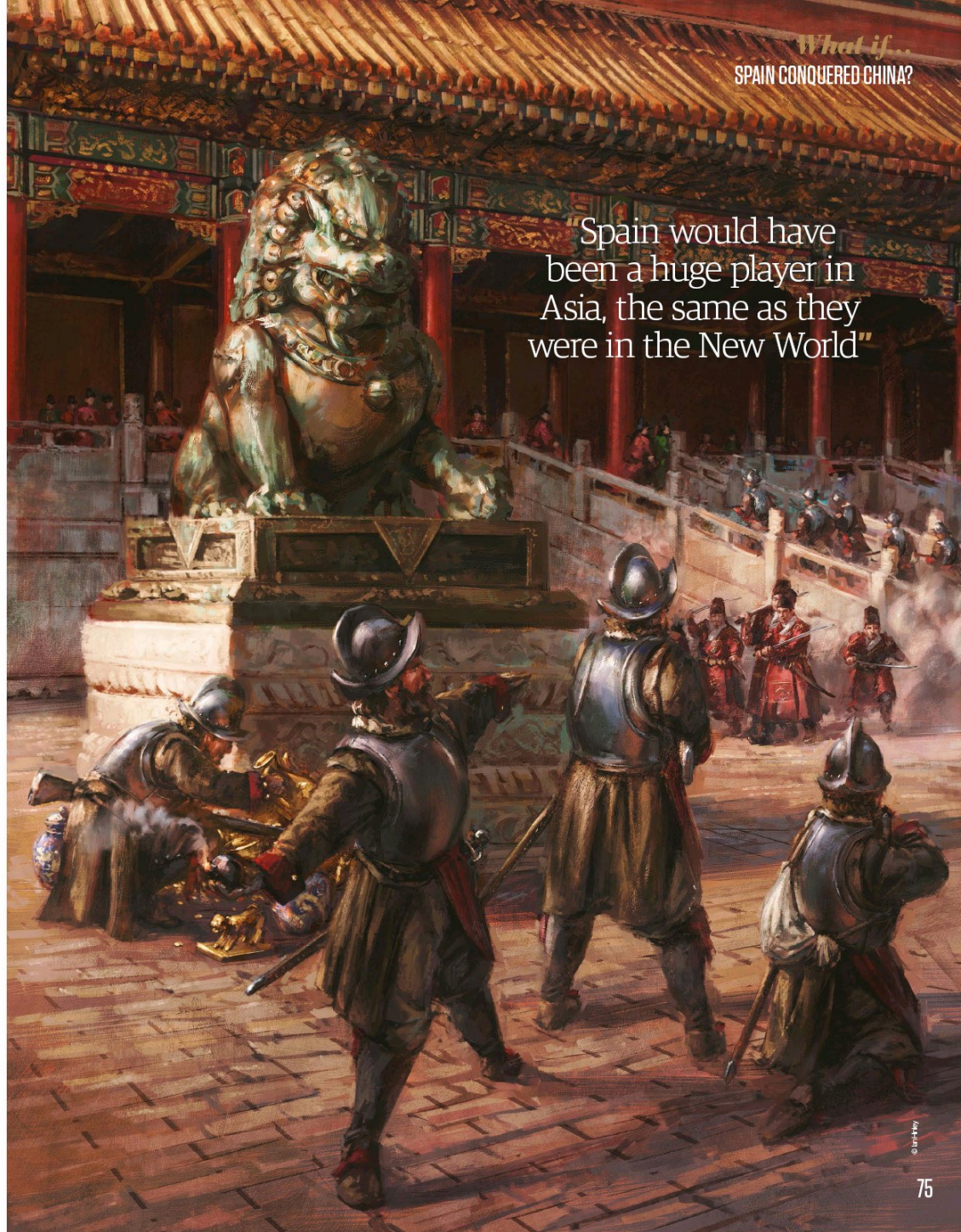
Were they looking to conquer the whole of China, or just some coastal regions?

They were probably looking to carve out a coastal province and see where it went from there. China is so vastly big that one province on the coast of China would be practically as big as all of Mexico, so there would have been so much land for them



The English defeat of the Invincible Armada may have stopped Spain from invading China

"Spain would have been a huge player in Asia, the same as they were in the New World"



to divide up. They were looking for their own fiefdoms, conquering land to make themselves rich.

There seems to have been a meeting in 1586 to go ahead with the plan - why did it not happen?

They could not get the approval of King Philip II. The lines of communication from Manila [the capital of the Philippines] to Madrid were so long that it took two years for a message to go one way. So for King Philip in Madrid to know anything, and to control anything on the other side of the world, it took four years, and he didn't want to be giving these people who were operating in his name so far away from him this carte blanche approval to launch this invasion.

If he had given his approval, how do you think it might have played out?

Realistically, if they had managed to ferry 1,000 men, it would have been a core of Spaniards plus Chinese mercenaries and Japanese pirates along with some Filipino mercenaries. So it would have been kind of a mixed bag of fighters and they would land them on the coast. The Chinese military would not have been able to stop them, as it was far too slow. The Spaniards would have established themselves on the coast and no doubt have gone a long way inland. Who knows - they might have conquered an entire province. It would have probably taken the better part of half a year, at least, for the Ming military to mount some kind of offense against them, so who can say how much of an enclave the Spanish could have created in that time.

Were there any other major factors at play?

If the Spanish had gone ahead with their plan in the 1590s, it would have been really interesting because the Japanese had invaded Korea and were trying to conquer China in 1592. But later that year, the Chinese started marshalling their forces, stripping China of a lot of the troops and sending them to Korea to defend against this Japanese invasion. If the Spanish had launched their invasion against the south coast of China at the same time, China would have been virtually denuded



of troops. That would have created a very interesting scenario where they could have marched a long, long way. They might even have got all the way to Beijing.

Could they have gone even further and conquered the whole of China?

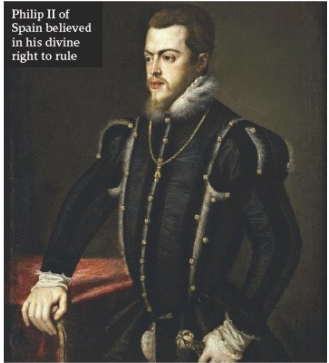
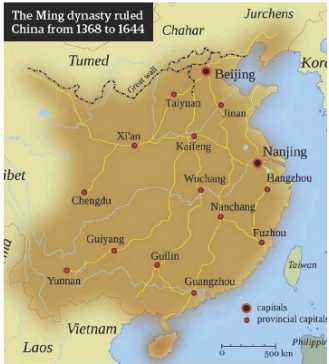
I don't think the Spanish could have replaced the emperor and made the whole of China Spanish. But I suspect they could have gone a very long way because these guys were gutsy, they had tremendous hutzpah, and they moved fast. The Chinese moved slowly. If the conquistadors had marched to Nanjing, the old capital, they could have taken it. They could have taken a huge chunk of China.

If they had made significant inroads, could China have been split with a Spanish-speaking part?

They would have carved up a chunk of southern China and you would see the Ming holding the northern part of the country. As it turned out, the Ming were on their last legs at the time. They collapsed at the beginning of the 1600s and were replaced by the Qing dynasty - so this was definitely a time of weakness. The Japanese were trying to take advantage of it as well as the Spanish, and things were happening on the Manchurian border. All of these forces were coming at China from different angles, and ultimately the Japanese invasion of Korea and the Chinese response to that weakened the Chinese significantly, making them weaker and much more susceptible to foreign invasions.

How would the conquest of China have improved Spain's position back in Europe?

The Thirty Years' War was just around the corner [from 1618 to 1648]. A wealthier Spain arguably would have been stronger and the lay of the land when the fighting was over might have been very different. Spain, enriched by its Chinese possessions, might also have been better able to hold onto its most rebellious territory - Portugal's emergence as a sovereign nation in the mid-16th century could have been put off for 100 or more years.



How would it be different?

Real timeline

- **A foothold in Asia**
Sailing from Mexico, Miguel López de Legazpi establishes the first Spanish settlement in the Philippines. **1565**
- **Battle of Manila**
Spanish forces conquer the Muslim trading port of Manila. It becomes the capital of the Spanish East Indies, shipping Chinese luxury goods to Mexico. **1570**
- **'The China Project'**
Spanish officials representing the crown, the military and religious brotherhoods meet in Manila and discuss how best to invade China. **1586**

Alternate timeline

- **King Philip II defers**
Though initially supportive of the conquistadors' plan, Philip II is distracted by the destruction of the Spanish Armada by England in 1588 and never revisits the plan to invade China. **1588**
- **Japan invades Korea**
Roughly 158,000 Japanese troops land in Korea with the ultimate goal of invading China. Despite initial success, combined Sino-Korean forces repel the surprise attack. **1592**
- **Cambodia expedition**
Seeing Cambodia as a launch pad for larger conquests in southeast Asia, the Spanish sends troops and missionaries to help the king defeat Siamese invaders. **1596**
- **Japan renews offensive**
After peace negotiations break down, Japan attacks Korea again only to reach a military stalemate. After a change in leadership, Japan retreats in 1598. **1597**
- **Spanish defeat**
The Cambodian expedition is a spectacular failure in which the Cambodians and Malays ultimately turn on their Iberian allies and massacre a considerable amount of them. **1599**
- **Manchurian candidate**
The various clans of the Manchu people in northern China unify under the leadership of Nurhaci and later his son Hong Taiji, establishing the Qing dynasty. **1636**
- **Chinese financial crisis**
An economic breakdown is partially caused by King Philip IV of Spain regulating the amount American silver exported to China. It leads to widespread peasant revolts led by Li Zicheng, a former minor Ming official. **1640**
- **Fall of the Ming dynasty**
After a rebel army invades Beijing, the last Ming ruler, the Chongzhen Emperor, hangs himself in a tree outside the Forbidden City. The Qing fill the power vacuum. **1644**
- **War on two fronts**
When word reaches the conquistadors that Japan has invaded Korea, the Spanish attack from the south with an imperial army from Central America. **1592**
- **Philip approves**
Aware that Chinese treasure could replenish his war chest after the defeat of the Armada, Philip II commits to the plan of the conquistadors. **1588**
- **China is carved up**
After years of fighting, the Spanish maintain control of southern China, Japan rules the northeast and the Ming only retain central provinces. **1600**
- **A new dynasty rises**
Having been defeated by foreign powers, Ming China's generals and aristocrats abandon the ruling dynasty in favour of new leadership. **1605**
- **New New Spain**
Spanish China is governed by newly appointed dukes, marquises and viceroys while Catholic missionaries begin converting the population to Christianity. **1610**
- **Thirty Years' War**
Bankrolled by Chinese loot, Philip IV is able to build a bigger and better mercenary army that helps tip the balance in Spain's favour during the European power struggle. **1618**

Through History

BURIAL PRACTICES

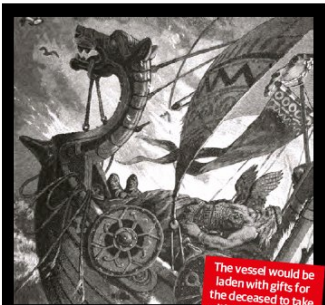
From mummies to sky burials, the way we dispose of our dead has varied down the ages



Coffins have six sides while caskets have four

COFFINS 5000 BCE

Coffins have long adapted to changing times. Wooden caskets went into mass production in the US during the American Civil War between 1861 and 1865, for instance, while an inventor from Ohio sought to deter grave robbers in 1878 by creating a mechanism that would pump them full of lead should they decide to lift the lid. Steel caskets appeared in the late 1840s and cast-iron coffins were popular from the 1850s. But in the 18th and 19th centuries, premature burial scared the life out of people to such a degree that bodies were attached to an overground bell that could be tugged to signal they were alive.



The vessel would be laden with gifts for the deceased to take with them to Valhalla

VIKING FUNERAL 800

Viking funerals involved setting a longship on fire with the body on board and sending it out into the water. It was believed that the higher the smoke rose, the closer the dead person got to Valhalla, the majestic hall ruled over by the god Odin. However, they were typically reserved for wealthy nobles and sea captains as ships were very expensive. Most Norsemen were buried in ship-shaped plots marked out by stones, although sometimes longships were buried with the dead rather than sailed out to sea. Slaves were often sacrificed to serve their master.



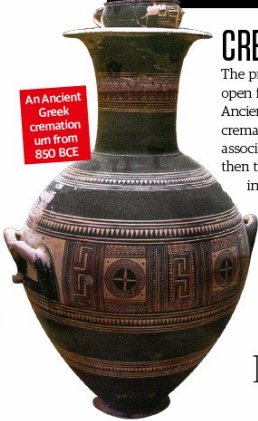
The mummy of an Egyptian child known as Nesi

MUMMIFICATION 2800 BCE

In an effort to preserve corpses, the Ancient Egyptians embalmed their dead. Special priests would remove internal body parts that would decay quickly, with the stomach, liver, lungs and intestines stored in canopic jars. However, due to its religious significance, the heart would be kept in the body. The body would also be treated with a type of salt to dry it out before being wrapped in linen. The whole process would take about 70 days. If the deceased was wealthy, their mummy might be placed in a sarcophagus and entombed, while others would be buried in the sand.

Sir Henry Thompson
BRITISH 1820-1904

Queen Victoria's surgeon helped found the Cremation Society of England. His involvement and persistence led to the legal restrictions on cremation being removed and the construction of the UK's first modern closed furnace crematorium in 1878, which was located in Woking, Surrey.



An Ancient Greek cremation urn from 850 BCE

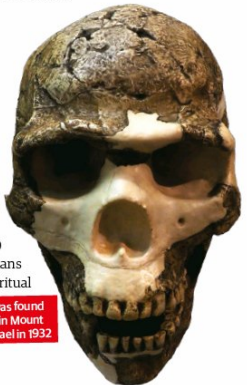
CREMATIONS 1000 BCE

The practise of burning corpses on an open fire was popularised in the West by the Ancient Greeks. While they also carried out ground burial - and all cremated ashes were interred, often in an urn - cremation was closely associated with military glory and patriotism. It's perhaps not surprising then that the Romans also appropriated this practise, at least until the introduction of Christianity. The belief in the resurrection of the body saw ground burial become the norm in the West until the 19th century, except in emergencies like plague outbreaks. Cremation also has a long history in Asia - in particular in India, where ashes are deposited in the Ganges.

"Cremation also has a long history in Asia"

CAVE BURIALS 90,000 BCE

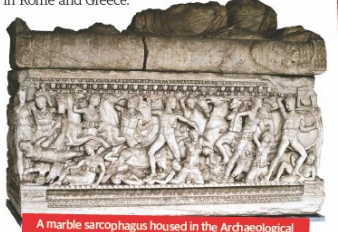
When the skeletons of ten adults and children were discovered from the Skhul Cave near Mount Carmel, Israel, in 1932, archeologists became very excited. Not only were they later found to be about 90,000 years old, but the fact that they were in the cave was evidence that humans were burying their dead at that early stage. Alongside the humans were ritual goods and the lower jaw of a wild boar in the hands of one of the skeletons. This could have been buried with him as a reminder of his fighting skill.



Skhul 5 was found in a cave in Mount Carmel, Israel in 1932

SARCOPHAGI 2650 BCE

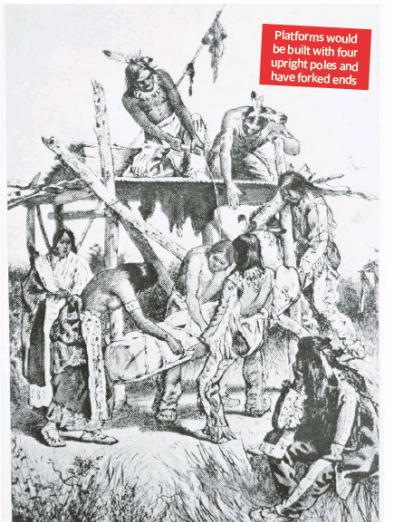
Sarcophagi are the elaborately decorated boxes that were first used by the Ancient Egyptians to house their corpses. Designed primarily to be positioned above ground, they were painted with images of gods and goddesses and tailored towards the individuals that were inside. As such, they had scenes that showed the afterlife that the person desired, clues regarding his or her status on Earth and artwork reflective of the times. Mummified bodies would be placed within them, along with valuable items. Their popularity also saw them used in Rome and Greece.



A marble sarcophagus housed in the Archaeological Museum of Thessaloniki in Central Macedonia, Greece

SCAFFOLD TREES UNKNOWN

Native American death rituals varied depending on the tribe in question but one popular method of dealing with a dead body was to leave it within a tree or on a platform. Not only did this prevent the corpses from falling prey to wild animals, it was thought that the spirit would escape much faster. In each case, the body would be carefully wrapped, and food and buckets of water would be hung. The scaffolds would generally be up to 2.5 metres in height although some could be much higher.



Platforms would be built with four upright poles and have forked ends

Holy Roman Emperor Joseph II
GERMAN 1741-90

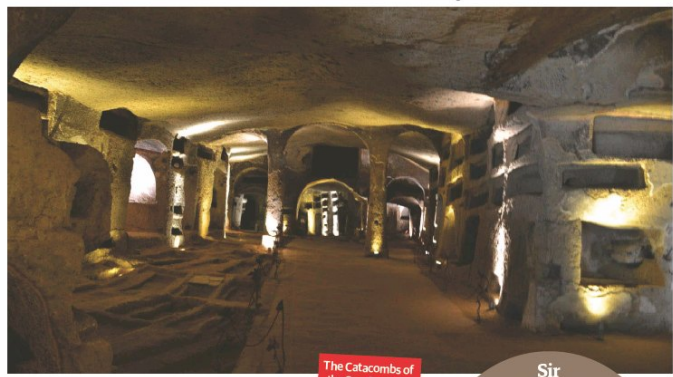
In 1784, Joseph II wanted to save wood so he instigated the creation of a reusable coffin. It was fitted with a trap so that a body could be dropped into the grave and the coffin could then be hauled back up to the surface for reuse. Protests forced the plan to be dropped after six months.



This typical example of a chambered cairn is located close to Newton Stewart in Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland

CHAMBERED CAIRNS 4000 BCE

Constructed during the Neolithic era, chambered cairns were burial monuments that comprised a chamber covered by a human-made stack of stones (or cairns, as they are known). There are large numbers of them in Scotland as well as others throughout the UK and Ireland. Several individuals would be buried within each one, and some of them would be in a crouched position. They would be allowed to decompose and then be rearranged. Given that they were located close to settlements, they would have been the burial place for a community.

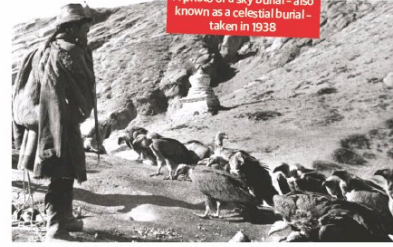


The Catacombs of the San Gennaro in Naples, Italy

CATACOMBS 3300 BCE

A variation on ground burial, catacombs are subterranean cemeteries with a network of tunnels and recesses for tombs. They originated in the Middle East 6,000 years ago and spread to Rome with Jewish migration and early Christians gathered in Rome's catacombs to share funeral meals and mark anniversaries. The Paris Catacombs are the most famous as they were opened as a public attraction in the 19th century. Former quarries, they were converted from 1786 to relocate bones from the city's overflowing cemeteries.

A photo of a sky burial - also known as a celestial burial - taken in 1938



SKY BURIALS 9000 BCE

Sky burial involves cutting up human remains and feeding them to vultures. Practiced in Tibet and Mongolia, it is a pragmatic solution for people who live in the icy mountains where ground burial isn't an option. The custom is also an extreme extension of Buddhist self-sacrifice and is mentioned in the 14th-century funerary text *Bardo Thödol*. It's thought sky burial stems from the act of defleshing bodies after death, with archaeological evidence suggesting it has been practised in Tibet for millennia. Zoroastrians in India and Iran also practice sky burial but their rationale is entirely different as they believe that dead bodies are spiritually impure.

"A pragmatic solution for people who live in the icy mountains"

Sir Grafton Elliot Smith
BRITISH 1877-1937

As the first person to use radiation techniques to study Egyptian mummies, Elliot Smith, who was professor of anatomy at the Cairo Medical School, was able to get an X-ray of Thutmose IV, the eighth pharaoh of the 18th Dynasty of Egypt, by slipping it out of a museum and into a nursing home.



This skirmish in the Austrian Alps during the last days of World War II saw Nazi forces turn on one another



BATTLE OF CASTLE ITTER

AUSTRIA, 5 MAY 1945

Written by Peter Price

Nestled in the picturesque Austrian alps, the fortress of Schloss Itter had been requisitioned into a satellite facility of the dreaded Dachau concentration camp since 1943. In May 1945, the castle held a number of French VIPs under the watchful eye of their SS guards. Once it became clear that the war was lost, the guards abandoned their posts, leaving the prisoners in control of the castle – but at the mercy of roving bands of SS hellbent on executing any enemies of the Third Reich.

Not wanting to meet this grizzly fate, the castle's handyman, Zvonimir Čučović was sent to find the advancing Allied forces and return with reinforcements. But the first soldiers he ran into were German, led by the pragmatic Major Josef 'Sepp' Gangl. Sensing the war was lost, Gangl decided to throw his lot in with the French trapped in the castle. These were not men who blindly followed the party line, and the fact that they were not targeted by anti-Nazi partisans operating in the area could show as much.

After securing the help of the Germans, the US army was located and a strong relief force was quickly put together. However, they were turned back by a fierce artillery barrage. Meanwhile, a few kilometres away, word of the situation had reached tank commander Captain Jack Lee. Not knowing that the other relief force had been turned back, he quickly gathered an impromptu force, including Gangl's men, and raced to the castle's rescue.

On approach to Schloss Itter, Lee had only around 20 Germans, seven Americans and one Sherman tank under his command. After a brief skirmish they

reached the fortress and it wasn't long before SS units on the mountain opened fire. Lighting up the night with machine gun and small arms fire, they continued the barrage until the early morning.

After dawn, the boom of artillery signalled the beginning of the attack. An artillery shell tore into the Sherman guarding the gate, causing the tank to erupt in a ball of flame. At this signal, the SS started racing towards the castle. Lee immediately ordered his men to pour round after round into the attacking force, keeping them at bay and preventing them entering the castle grounds. As supplies began to run low, the Allies readied themselves for the final push. Just then, the sound of cannon fire echoed around the castle. The American relief force had finally arrived and broken through, easily driving off the remaining SS forces.

As Gangl was killed during the battle, we cannot know what kind of pardon or punishment he would have received. His men, while they fought bravely alongside the Allies, were immediately sent to a prisoner of war camp and they then faded into obscurity. A day of fighting for the Allies had not undone years of fighting for the Nazi regime.

Lee received the Distinguished Service Cross in honour of actions. His brash and uncouth manner offended the French politicians sensibilities but his leadership saw his tiny unit holdout and beat a much larger and better equipped force. Only a few men lost their lives – Major Gangl and a couple of Wehrmacht defenders. The SS losses are not known but must have been in the dozens. The remainder of the unit dissolved into the mountains after the attack, their strength crushed and will broken.



Allied Forces

TROOPS: C.47
TANKS: 1
ARTILLERY: 0



CAPTAIN JACK LEE
LEADER

A grizzled veteran, Jack Lee was by all accounts a hard man who possessed a keen tactical mind. **Strengths:** He inspired his soldiers to fight against the odds. **Weaknesses:** Lee only had a handful of men at his disposal.



WEHRMACHT INFANTRY

KEY UNIT
The German soldiers who threw their lot in with the Allies to save civilians from further bloodshed. **Strengths:** Their willingness to fight former comrades. **Weaknesses:** They were tired and under equipped.



M4 'EASY EIGHT' SHERMAN

KEY WEAPON
The workhorse of the US armoured corps, the M4 Sherman was one of the most widely used tanks of the war. **Strengths:** The M4 Sherman was impervious to small arms fire. **Weaknesses:** The tanks was vulnerable to artillery shells.

01 Time is of the essence
Knowing the importance of keeping the French VIPs safe, the US Army hastily puts together a rescue force. Making their way from the southwest, they are forced to halt the advance when coming under a hail of artillery fire. Captain Lee, not knowing of this setback, takes his small force and races towards the castle. He splits his men to secure a bridge crossing and continues on with just one tank, seven Americans and around 20 Germans.

02 Enemy sighted
First blood is drawn on the road leading to the castle. Rounding a corner on the road, the M4 gunner opens up on an SS patrol attempting to set up a roadblock. Scattering the men, Lee orders his vehicles to make haste. Gunning their engines, the Allied column tears up the road to the castle.

03 Digging in
Lee has his men occupy strategic locations across the castle walls, and parks his tank 'Besotten Jenny' in front of the main gate to provide supporting fire and block the entrance. However, the French POWs are less than enthusiastic about the small number of reinforcements that, much to their chagrin, contained German troops.

04 Once more unto the breach
Once the defences are in place, it's only a matter of time before the attack begins and Lee uses this chance to see that his men are fed and rested. Later that day, the SS begin to probe the defences and fire is exchanged throughout the night as Lee sees the noncombatant prisoners of war to safety.

05 Forward unto dawn
The defenders receive a rude awakening as the sharp crack of the SS rifles signals the battle beginning in earnest. A German artillery shell finds its mark and blows the Sherman tank to smithereens. Corporal Szymoyk, who is manning the machine gun, manages to escape from the tank before being engulfed in the fireball. In one fell swoop, the defenders lose their best weapon and the situation turns dire.

06 Man the walls
Destroying the Sherman is the signal for the SS to begin their main assault. Small teams race towards the walls with grappling hooks, looking to scale them and outflank the defenders. Methodical fire from the walls keeps these attackers at bay and the heavy fighting rages along the castle walls as fire is returned from the woods. As the engagement draws out the defenders, ammunition supplies begin to dwindle.

10 Victory
With the full might of the US army brought down on them, the remaining SS units scatter into the mountains and melt away, no longer a threat to the prisoners of war or the local population. While their losses are not recorded, they must be high compared to the three dead Wehrmacht soldiers. The VIPs are whisked away for debriefing while the Wehrmacht soldiers are immediately packed away to a prisoner of war camp.

09 Artillery to the rescue
With several of the Wehrmacht soldiers down and Major Gangl having caught a sniper's bullet, the situation is looking grim for the castle defenders. Just as the Allied troops pull back to the keep, the sound of artillery rumbles through the valley - the US reinforcements have arrived just in the nick of time.

08 Run, Jean, run!
Tennis star Jean Borotra volunteers to run through the SS gauntlet to update the Allied forces on the situation. In heroic fashion, he evades the soldiers in the forest and brings word of the desperate situation to nearby US forces.

07 Overwhelming odds
With the SS relentlessly pressing the attack, Lee realises his men will soon be overrun. The keep in the centre of the grounds is still intact and he begins pulling his men back, intent on making the Germans pay for each metre with bullets, bayonets and brains.



Waffen SS

TROOPS: C.200
TANKS: 0
ARTILLERY: 3



SEBASTIAN WIMMER
LEADER

A diehard Nazi, Wimmer and his men roamed the Austrian countryside hunting down perceived traitors of the Third Reich. **Strengths:** His fanatical bravery was born from support of Nazism. **Weaknesses:** Wimmer was fighting for a lost cause.



WAFFEN SS

KEY UNIT
These soldiers were suicidally reckless in battle and the main perpetrators of German war crimes in World War II. **Strengths:** Their willingness to attack against the odds. **Weaknesses:** They could have no hope of winning the war.



8.8CM FLAK 41
KEY WEAPON

Originally designed as an anti-aircraft gun, the 88mm was equally effective against Allied armour. **Strengths:** A versatile carriage meant that the gun could be ready to fire in a matter of minutes. **Weaknesses:** By May 1945, German munition supplies would have been nonexistent.



Elizabeth Lamb

Viscountess Melbourne

Labelled 'the cleverest of women' by Byron, this Georgian socialite rose to the pinnacle of high society while flouting all of its rules

Elizabeth, Lady Melbourne, was the mother of William Lamb, Queen Victoria's first prime minister. While he was seen as the very essence of patrician Victorian respectability, his mother was notorious. A lady who refused to conform to the day's standards of a 'good' woman of the time, she did what she had to do to get ahead in suffocating Georgian high society.

During her lifetime, Lady Melbourne was compared to the scheming Marquise de Merteuil, the siren in Pierre Choderlos de Laclos' novel *Dangerous Liaisons* who used seduction as a social weapon. It was said by her circle of female Georgian friends that she could never look at a marriage without trying to wreck it.

Together with society celebrity Georgiana Cavendish, Duchess of Devonshire, and artist Anne Damer, she was portrayed as one of the three witches from *Macbeth*. In the portrait, the women float around a cauldron mixing spells to cast on their society friends. Disapproving society diarist Lady Mary Coke noted: "They have chosen the Scene where they compose their Cauldron

WRITTEN BY
COLIN BROWN



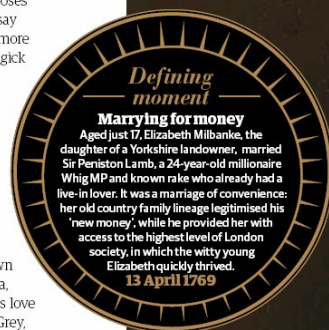
Former Sunday Times political editor, Colin Brown is author of *Lady M: The Life and Loves of Elizabeth Lamb, Viscountess Melbourne 1751-1818*, which is out now from Amberley Publishing.

but instead of 'finger of Birth-strangled babe etc' their Cauldron is composed of roses and carnations and I daresay they think their charmes more irresistible than all the magick of the Witches."

But Elizabeth's spells were far more dangerous than those Shakespearean sorceresses. She seemed

to live by an unwritten rule that she encouraged the duchess of Devonshire to follow - that a lady had to be loyal to her husband until she provided him with an heir. After that, women were free to follow their own interests, just as their husbands did. Georgiana, under her influence, embarked on a disastrous love affair with the young Charles Grey, later Earl Grey, and she even secretly gave birth to his daughter while in exile on the Continent.

Elizabeth no doubt felt free to have affairs of her own as a result of her own experience. Her husband, Sir Peniston Lamb, began an affair with celebrated courtesan and actress Sophia Baddeley when Elizabeth was pregnant with their first son.



This portrait of Elizabeth was painted for the Prince of Wales, c. 1784



Hero or Villain?

ELIZABETH LAMB

Defining
moment

Political ambitions

The burgeoning Piccadilly power couple became Lord and Lady Melbourne after Sir Peniston was rewarded for supporting the government. But it was an Irish title and the ambitious Lady Melbourne wanted more. As a reigning hostess of high society, she made friendships and engaged in a fair few romantic liaisons that were advantageous to her husband's and family's advancement.

8 June 1770

"It was said by her circle of female Georgian friends that she could never look at a marriage without trying to wreck it"

Hero or Villain?

ELIZABETH LAMB



Elizabeth (far right), Anne Damer (far left) and Georgiana Cavendish (centre) depicted as *Macbeth's* Three Witches

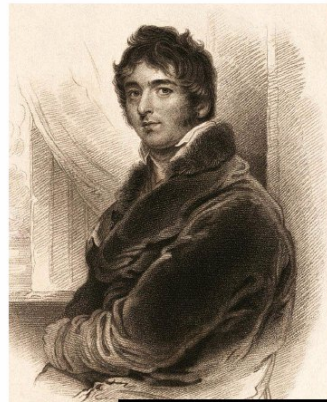
Sir Peniston's hapless pursuit of Sophia - and the fortune he spent on her - was exposed in a scandalous Georgian kiss-and-tell memoir penned by Sophia's friend, Elizabeth Steele.

Elizabeth did not get mad - she got even. Her son's birth was the trigger for Elizabeth to embark on a series of spectacular but discreet love affairs, culminating in bedding Prince George, the Prince of Wales. It is reckoned that out of her six children, only Elizabeth's first son, Peniston, was by her husband. Like other men of the age, Lady Melbourne's wealthy husband seemed prepared to adopt the offspring from her many affairs as his own in return for the social rewards it brought.

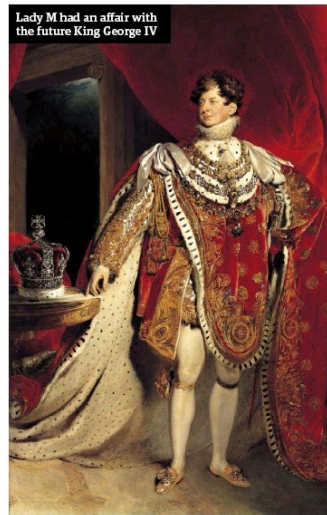
Over the next two decades, Elizabeth had four sons and two daughters who survived childhood. Her fourth son, George Lamb, was generally accepted in polite society as having been fathered by the Prince of Wales, later George IV. His birth in July 1784 suggests he was conceived in November

1783 - the same month in which the prince gave Lady Melbourne's cuckolded husband a royal post as gentleman of the bedchamber and the promotion to the English Viscountcy that the couple craved. The title, obtained through Elizabeth's sexual favours to the prince, put the Melbournes on a par with their society acquaintances, and marriage consolidated the link between the Lams and the Cavendish family on 3 June 1805 when Elizabeth's second son, William, married his childhood sweetheart Lady Caroline Ponsonby, the duchess of Devonshire's niece.

Lady Melbourne was born Elizabeth Milbanke in 1751 in the North Yorkshire backwater of Hainaby Hall, near Richmond, and her family was a respectable pillar of Yorkshire society that could trace its roots back to the court of Mary, Queen of Scots. She had married so-called 'new money' when she wed Sir Peniston Lamb in 1769 at the age of 17. A year before, Sir Peniston had inherited an estate of £1 million including



Elizabeth's son William, who would later become prime minister



Lady M had an affair with the future King George IV

£500,000 in cash, two stately homes at Melbourne in Derbyshire, Brockton Hall in Hertfordshire, and a townhouse in Sackville Street, Piccadilly. The Lamb fortune had been amassed by his father in a suspiciously fast time as a lawyer to rich landowners - including the Salisburys, who claimed he had embezzled it from their land.

Sir Peniston Lamb wanted some of the respectability that Elizabeth Milbanke brought to their marriage while Elizabeth's father, Sir Ralph Milbanke, the fifth baronet and a Member of Parliament, wanted a rich husband for his daughter.

It was a marriage of convenience - a deal that Lydia Languish calls in Richard Brinsley Sheridan's farce *The Rivals* a "Smithfield Bargain". Sheridan was one of the glittering circle of Georgian figures with the Whig leader Charles James Fox who entertained their friends with their biting wit at Lady Melbourne's salon at Melbourne House, which she had built off Piccadilly with over £60,000 of her husband's fortune.

In May 1777, Lady Melbourne and the bon ton turned out to see the first night of Sheridan's play *The School for Scandal*, which satirised his friends in the audience. They roared with laughter at Lady Teazle - thought by many to represent Elizabeth's friend Georgiana - being berated by her husband for being a spendthrift. Lady Sneerwell captured Lady Melbourne's acid tongue: "Psha! There's no possibility of being witty without a little ill nature: the malice of a good thing is the barb that makes it stick." In the play, Lady Sneerwell repels the attempts by Joseph Surface to seduce her but in real life, Elizabeth was soon pregnant by her long-term lover, George Wyndham, Earl of Egremont, owner of Petworth house in West Sussex and patron of artists including JMW Turner. Elizabeth had twins by him but they died shortly after their birth. In the summer of 1778, Lady Melbourne became pregnant again by Lord Egremont.

Elizabeth was part of the female army of followers attracted to a vast military encampment capable of accommodating 15,000 soldiers and

militiamen on the North Downs of Kent at the tiny hamlet of Coxheath. The soldiers were there to repel a threatened French invasion but it quickly became notorious for the officers' nocturnal sexual manoeuvres. While she was at the camp that long, hot summer, Lady Melbourne and the earl of Egremont allegedly participated in similar night-time meetings. William Lamb was born on 15 March 1779 at Melbourne House, so the future prime minister may have been conceived in a marquee in the camp at Coxheath. William grew up as the second son with no prospect of a private fortune until Lord Melbourne's heir, Peniston Lamb, died childless in 1805.

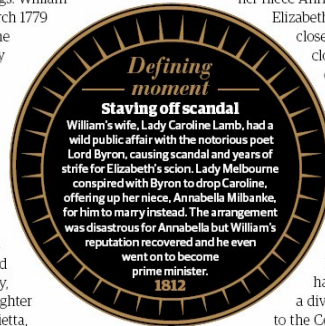
That changed William's prospects and he proposed to Lady Caroline Ponsonby, the boyish and wilful daughter of Georgiana's sister Henrietta, Countess of Bessborough. However, their marriage was quickly shattered when Caroline had a very public love affair with a well-known rake, Godfrey Webster, which brought a coruscating rebuke in a letter from her mother-in-law: "When any one braves the opinion of the World, sooner

or later they will feel the consequences of it..." Unheeding, Caroline fell hopelessly in love with the poet Lord Byron in 1812 when he burst onto the scene with the publication of his epic poem *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*. But when Byron quickly tired of Caroline, Lady Melbourne used all of her charm, wit and influence to persuade him to marry her niece Annabella Milbanke instead.

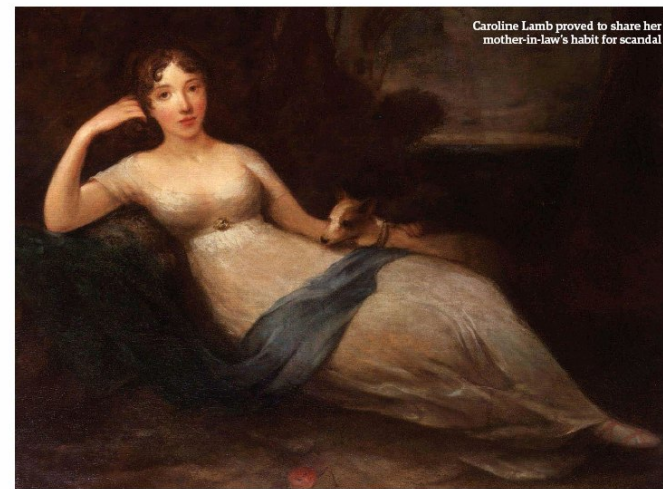
Elizabeth was 61 but she became close to Byron who was 24 - so close that they were accused of becoming lovers. Lady Melbourne succeeded in destroying Caroline's affair with Byron to rescue her son's reputation but it was at the cost of Annabella's happiness. She accused Lady Melbourne of concealing Lord Byron's love affair with his own half-sister and the scandal of a divorce forced Byron to flee to the Continent for good. Some sources even go so far as to say that he was an abusive husband to Annabella.

It has been said by some that Lady Melbourne climbed the social ladder on her back. She certainly traded sexual favours among a small circle of male friends for privilege and power but Elizabeth did show more maturity and better judgment than most of the men of her acquaintance.

In an age when women were barred from any official role in politics, Elizabeth was instrumental in making sure the Whigs retained some influence over Prince George when he became regent in 1811. On a more personal level, she helped her husband achieve success and saved her son's career. William went on to become prime minister and mentor to a young Queen Victoria, who in turn went on to name a city after him - Melbourne, Australia.



"The future prime minister may have been conceived in a marquee in the camp at Coxheath"



Caroline Lamb proved to share her mother-in-law's habit for scandal



Hero or villain?

HEROISM

Elizabeth was a strong woman living in a man's world who climbed the social ladder with shrewd love affairs - but she did it all for her son.

VILLAINY

After causing many scandals in her youth, she used her niece to marry Byron, and Caroline Lamb's obsession with the poet and rescue William Lamb's reputation.

LEGACY

A high society legend and literary inspiration, one of her sons served as prime minister and a daughter, Emily, married another prime minister, Lord Palmerston.

Was Elizabeth Lamb a hero or a villain? Get in touch and let us know what you think

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Bluffer's Guide

The Assassination of Martin Luther King

USA, 4 APRIL 1968

Did you know?

President Lyndon B Johnson proclaimed Sunday 7 April 1968 as a national day of mourning for the civil rights leader's death.

Timeline

12 FEBRUARY 1968



The deaths of Robert Walker and Echol Cole provoke black sanitation workers in Memphis to strike against poor pay and dangerous working conditions.

10 MARCH 1968



MLK flies to Memphis to support the strike. He delivers a speech to more than 25,000 people and ten days later leads a march that ultimately turns violent.

3 APRIL 1968



King delivers his famous 'I've Been to the Mountaintop' speech at the Mason Temple in Memphis – this is his last ever public speech.

4 APRIL 1968



James Earl Ray books a hotel room opposite the Lorraine Motel, where King is staying. The sniper shoots MLK on the hotel balcony.

9 APRIL 1968



King's funeral is held in Atlanta, Georgia. Nearly 200,000 turned out to either watch or march alongside the procession of MLK's mule-pulled casket.

13 JUNE 1968



Having been on the run for two months, Ray is eventually captured at London's Heathrow Airport while trying to fly to Rhodesia under a false passport.



What was it?

Martin Luther King Jr arrived in Memphis, Tennessee, to support the sanitation workers who were striking in the city over poor work conditions. His flight had been delayed following a bomb scare but he eventually arrived in Memphis and checked into the Lorraine Motel. He complained to his aides that he was suffering from a migraine and initially decided that he would not make his planned appearance at the Mason Temple. However, King recovered and delivered his famous 'I've Been to the Mountaintop' speech to the crowd.

The next day, King was getting ready to attend a dinner at a local minister's home. At 6.01pm, he was shot while stood on his motel balcony and he was declared dead an hour later. He was 39 years old.

After his tragic death, many people have seen King's last public speech as a premonition as he discussed the possibility that he may not live much longer: '...I've seen the Promised Land. I may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the Promised Land.'



What were the consequences?

James Earl Ray, an escaped convict and white supremacist, was seen fleeing the crime scene and his fingerprints were found on the gun. After a two-month manhunt, he was captured at Heathrow Airport, having travelled to the UK with a fake Canadian passport.

Ray pleaded guilty in March 1969 and was sentenced to 99 years in prison. But three days later, he claimed that he was a victim of a conspiracy and tried to withdraw his plea. The motion was denied, as were his dozens of other requests for a trial during the next 29 years.

In the days immediately following King's assassination, outrage spread across the United States and riots broke out in over 100 cities, causing damage worth an estimated \$65 million. In the coming years, civil rights activists increasingly embraced the militancy of the Black Panther movement – already in ascendency in King's final days – over nonviolent protest.



Who was involved?



Martin Luther King Jr

1929-68

As leader of the Civil Rights Movement, he advocated nonviolence to tackle inequality and received the Noble Peace Prize.



James Earl Ray

1928-98

Criminal and white supremacist James Earl Ray pleaded guilty to murder to avoid a jury trial but he later recanted his confession.



Ralph Abernathy

1926-90

A fellow leader of the Civil Rights Movement and a close friend of King's, Abernathy succeeded him as president of the SCLC.

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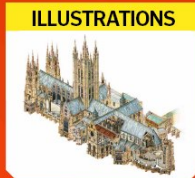


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On the Menu

MOUSSAKA



Did you know?

Moussaka chef Nikolaos Tselementes' surname is synonymous with 'cookbook' in Greek

Ingredients

FOR THE VEGETABLE LAYERS

- 3 aubergines, cut lengthways into 1cm slices
- 8 medium tomatoes, peeled and sliced
- 2 bell peppers, chopped
- 5 tsp fresh basil
- 40ml olive oil
- Salt and pepper
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 tsp allspice
- ½ tbsp ground nutmeg
- ½ tbsp ground coriander
- ½ tsp ground cinnamon
- ¼ tsp ground cloves
- 90ml olive oil
- 400ml water
- Salt and pepper

FOR THE MEAT FILLING

- 500g minced beef or lamb
- 250g onions, finely chopped
- 2 cloves of garlic, finely chopped
- 90ml dry red wine
- 400g chopped tomatoes
- 3 tsp fresh parsley

FOR THE YOGHURT CREAM

- 700g natural yoghurt
- 4 eggs
- 120g grated graviera cheese or cheddar
- Salt and pepper
- ½ tbsp of blackberry

THE TASTE OF THE TAVERNA GREECE, 13TH CENTURY

Moussaka is perhaps best described as a meat and vegetable stew made with alternating layers of sliced aubergines and minced beef or lamb. Today, it is considered to be Greece's national dish and this is in part due to master chef Nikolaos Tselementis, who radically rewrote the recipe in the 1920s. He added a béchamel sauce out of the mistaken belief that all European cooking - in this case, French cuisine - ultimately had its roots in Ancient Greece.

However, while Tselementes' recipe sought to excise an Eastern influence that he thought was introduced during Ottoman rule in Greece, the earliest recorded recipe for moussaka has actually been found in a 13th-century Arabic text known as *A Baghdad Cookbook*.

The following recipe takes inspiration from the *Baghdad Cookbook* version but as the original text is quite vague, we've had to improvise. Before starting, it is important to remember that a great moussaka is a labour of love! It is time-consuming but the end result is definitely worth it.

METHOD

1. Place the aubergines at the bottom of a deep dish, sprinkle them with salt and cover with cold water. Move to the side and leave for 1 hour, then remove them and give them a rinse. Drain them and pat them dry with kitchen towel.
2. Preheat the oven to 120°C. Sprinkle your tomato slices with salt and olive oil, place them in the oven for 1 hour, remove and allow them to cool.
3. Meanwhile, add oil to a saucepan and fry the aubergine slices and bell peppers. Place them on kitchen towel to absorb any excess oil.
4. Add the mince, onion, garlic and spices to the saucepan and sauté over a moderate heat for about 15-20 minutes until brown. In the recipe from *A Blandish Cookbook*, coriander, cumin, caraway, cinnamon and ginger are all suggested, so feel free to use these if you wish.
5. Pour in the wine, stirring for two to three minutes while the alcohol evaporates. Next, add the tomato, bay leaf, parsley, salt and pepper with

400 millilitres of water. After about 30 minutes, the sauce should have thickened up.

6. Remove the bay leaf and add the basil, stirring it into the sauce. Take off the heat and preheat the oven to 170°C. Place the aubergines at the bottom of a dish and sprinkle basil over them.
7. Create a layer on top with half of the tomato slices and peppers, and then top this with a layer of the meat mixture. Repeat this so that you have two layers of each.
8. Pour the yoghurt, eggs, salt and pepper into a bowl and whisk until a smooth cream is formed. Add the cheese and mix so that it is dispersed evenly. Then, top your moussaka with a generous layer of the mixture.
9. Scatter a little bit of blackberry on the top if you wish, or spare tomato slices. Bake your moussaka for about 45-50 minutes until it is browned on the surface and then leave it to stand for 20 minutes before serving.

Did you make it? Let us know!

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REVIEWS

The books, TV shows and films causing a stir in the history world this month



Book



TV



Podcast



Film



Games



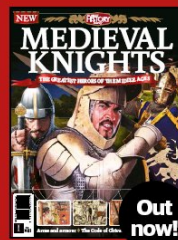
Other

Reviews by

David Crookes, Erlingur Einarsson, Charlie Ginger, Jessica Leggett, Katharine Marsh

A real-life Knight's Tale

Thanks to the likes of King Arthur, *Ivanhoe* and more recently *Game of Thrones*, it's hard not to think of knights as romantic heroes off on thrilling quests, possibly involving vanquishing dragons. To discover what knighthood was really like, pick up this in-depth guide, which charts the dawn and downfall of the Medieval chevalier. Learn more about the faces beneath the heavy iron helmets, the code of chivalry they were supposed to follow, their arms and armour, as well as key battles and wars.



Out now!

Buy the All About History Book of Medieval Knights in shops or online at myfavouritehistory.com Price: £9.99

DAUGHTERS OF THE WINTER QUEEN

The tale of five women and their determination to survive in a chaotic world

Author Nancy Goldstone **Publisher** Weidenfeld & Nicolson **Price** £20 **Released** Out now

The story of the Winter Queen, Elizabeth Stuart, is sadly one that remains largely hidden in popular history, let alone the stories of her formidable daughters Elizabeth, Louisa, Henrietta and Sophie. Nancy Goldstone is here to correct this.

For context, Goldstone winds the clock back to the tragic downfall and execution of Elizabeth's grandmother, Mary, Queen of Scots. It is brief but evocatively written, foreshadowing what is to come for her offspring. We are then introduced to Elizabeth as a young, bright, intelligent princess, whose quiet life in Scotland changed forever when her father becomes King James I of England.

The transition is not the easiest, evident with the Gunpowder Plot conspirators hoping to replace James with the princess. A quest to find her a suitable, Protestant husband leads to Elizabeth's betrothal to Frederick, Elector Palatine, an ambitious man far below her rank. Their marriage comes with the promise that King James will support Frederick in his quest to become the king of Bohemia.

But political intrigue, coupled with her father's failure to uphold his end of the bargain, results in Frederick and Elizabeth reigning for a single winter (hence their shared soubriquets, the Winter King and Queen). The pair took refuge in the Netherlands.

Just over a decade later, Elizabeth is widowed but she

remains determined to survive nonetheless, seeking advantageous marriages for her children.

One of the most striking aspects of this book from the outset is just how easy it is to read – quite often, well-researched works like this can be bogged down by academic language that fails to resonate with the everyday reader. However, *Daughters of the Winter Queen* flows beautifully from one chapter to the next, making it difficult to put down. Goldstone's immersive style of writing is also a winner, especially in the heartbreaking moments of the deaths of Elizabeth's brothers Henry and Charles.

In addition to this, the book is remarkably balanced considering that Goldstone had five intelligent women to discuss, with each one given her own chapter for each section. It was enjoyable to learn about the artistic talents of Elizabeth's daughters as well as the respective paths they took. Of course, out of the four it is Sophia's life that is particularly interesting. Famed as a patron of the arts, she

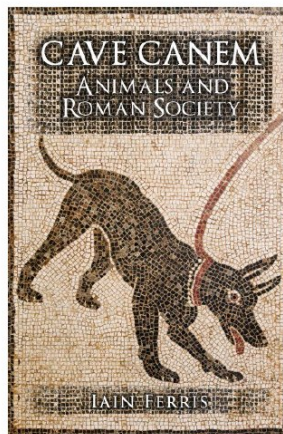
"The book is remarkably balanced considering Goldstone had five intelligent women to discuss"

became the heiress of Queen Anne of Great Britain – a claim she passed on to her son George, founder of the Hanoverian dynasty.

There is, however, one issue that is difficult to ignore. As Goldstone recounts Mary's capture in 1567, she refers to the earl of Bothwell as Mary's second husband – but for those who are aware of Mary's history, they will know that he was in fact her third husband. Although Goldstone's bibliography attests to her research, a mistake like this does pose the question as to whether there are other errors in the text and is perhaps something to be aware of.

Daughters of the Winter Queen is a wonderfully compelling read that will interest anyone who is into royal history.

Engaging Accessible Fascinating JL



"You don't need a great deal of knowledge about Antiquity"

CAVE CANEM

From love to slaughter, animals meant something to everyone in Ancient Rome

Author Iain Ferris **Publisher** Amberley Publishing **Price** £20 **Released** Out now

You might think that a book specifically on animals in Ancient Rome might be a bit niche but at some point you've probably wondered how the Romans named their dogs or what pets they might have had. Well, Iain Ferris has all the answers in his new book, *Cave Canem: Animals and Roman Society*. And just in case you're wondering what that Latin phrase means, it's 'beware of the dog'.

From dolphins to birds to panthers, Ferris explores the use of animals throughout the Roman Empire as pets, religious symbols and in entertainment – after all, wild cats were used in the Colosseum. What's especially great is that you don't need a great deal of knowledge about Antiquity to get along with the information, as long as you've got the basics down, following Ferris' enthusiastic writing should be easy.

You know you're in good hands when the author pulls from trusted sources and archaeological evidence

like sculptures, coins and mosaics, and there's a long bibliography for further reading. There are also 98 plates in the middle of the book providing some imagery but he could perhaps have gone with fewer of these and more description as each is only accompanied by the artefact's title and current location. Alongside that, the only other thing that lets this book down is possibly its editing. While the subject knowledge is all there alongside some well-crafted titles and subheadings, missing full stops and commas can, at times, make the read a bit jarring.

Nevertheless, as one of the first comprehensive books on this subject matter, it's certainly a must-have for any fans of Ancient Rome who are looking for some lighter reading about a civilisation that's perhaps best known for its darker side.

Fun Refreshing Eye-opening KM

TESLA

How the overlooked inventor transformed our world

Author Richard Munson **Publisher** WW Norton & Company **Price** £20 **Released** 22 May

There are many strange reasons why history seems to stride past a peculiar genius and rush instead into the arms of less brilliant but more charismatic pioneers. Sadly, the wonderful Nikola Tesla is on the list of creators that time has failed to fully recognise. But Richard Munson has decided to dedicate himself to righting this wrong in a superbly researched, entertaining and often saddening study of a man who gave the world so much yet took so little.

The life of Tesla, a Serbian American who spoke eight languages and could recite poetry and entire books from memory, is both bizarre and fantastic. Once an employee of Thomas Edison, he soon proved that his talents and vision for the future far exceeded those of the more famous American.

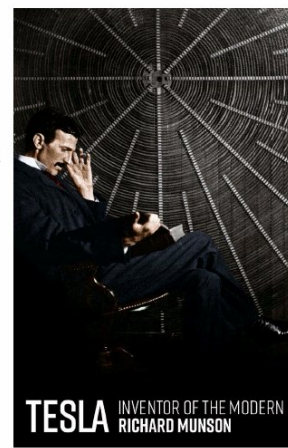
From his idea of utilising alternating high-frequency currents to generate more reliable electricity than

the flickering embers produced by Edison, to his understanding of the potential of radio (which predated the famed Guglielmo Marconi by a decade), the tall, handsome Tesla was both a genius and a showman.

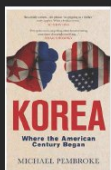
However, while he claimed to do all of his inventing in his mind, his brilliance was both appreciated and overlooked. Munson believes that this is partly due to vampiric businessmen leaching off his ideas, and also in some ways a result of Tesla's eccentricity.

While Tesla's incredible inventiveness has inspired billionaires such as Elon Musk, he has unfairly slipped between two historic stools for far too long. It can only be hoped that Munson's excellent insight will finally reveal the truth behind this marvellous maverick to the world.

Electric Insightful Revelatory CG



TESLA INVENTOR OF THE MODERN RICHARD MUNSON



HISTORY WAR RECOMMENDS...

KOREA

Author: Michael Pembroke Price: £15
Publisher: Hardie Grant Books

Out now!

As Kim Jong-un and President Trump make plans for a historic meeting, it's worth considering how the Korean War helped shape the United States. It set a precedent for America's failed modern wars, opened the door for ever-increasing military expenditure and created the unresolved regional stand-off we have in Korea today, argues award-winning author Michael Pembroke. In *Korea: Where the American Century Began*, Pembroke gives a broad overview of the peninsula's history before exploring the decisions made during the war and their lasting legacy in depth.



SWEET COUNTRY

A provocative Western challenging Australia's past

Certificate 15 Director Warwick Thornton **Cast** Hamilton Morris, Bryan Brown, Sam Neill **Released** Out now



In *Sweet Country*, director Warwick Thornton – winner of the prestigious Camera d'Or for *Samson and Delilah* in 2009 – changes the long-standing tendency of reducing Aboriginal viewpoints to the fringes of Australian films in an important piece of contemporary cinema and one that resonates with today's escalating racial tensions.

Loosely based on a true story of an Aboriginal man known as Wilberta Jack in 1920s, *Sweet Country* follows Sam Kelly, a middle-aged farmhand on preacher Fred Smith's Outback farm. Sam goes on the run with his wife Lizzie after he kills violent racist Harry March in a confrontation at Sam's home. Pursued by hardened Sergeant Fletcher (Bryan Brown in his finest form), the community's evolving knowledge of the confrontation starts to cast doubt on Sam's supposed savagery,

culminating in a trial filled with prejudice and emotion while fighting for the truth and the letter of the law.

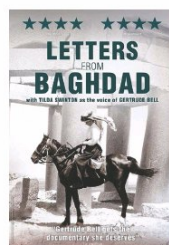
As a definitive historical document, *Sweet Country* is unreliable, not only for its loose connection to the real events inspiring the film, but also the way Thornton constructs the film. While the narrative seems mostly linear, it's laid out at an almost meditative pace and is completely stripped of any musical score. It is dotted with clever little time jumps, which not only serve to break up the story and keep the viewer guessing as to their meaning and significance, but also reflect upon how Indigenous Australians view the concept of time itself. Touches like that, the deeply empathetic portrait of Sam and the archetypes projected across the screen make *Sweet Country* a spiritually truthful fable of life in the volatile outback, and one that moves as much as it informs.



LETTERS FROM BAGHDAD

Fascinating insight into Iraq's so-called 'female Laurence of Arabia'

Certificate PG Directors Sabine Krayenbühl and Zeva Oelbaum
Cast Tilda Swinton, Rose Leslie, Rachel Stirling, Paul McGann, Helen Ryan, Christopher Villiers, Lucy Robinson **Released** Out now



For so long, Gertrude Bell's fascinating story has been criminally overlooked. As a hugely influential British traveller, political officer and archaeologist, she fell in love with the Middle East, overcame setbacks and helped shaped its destiny. It's such a shame, then, that she has so often been dubbed the 'female Laurence of Arabia', for her efforts more than earned her a place away from the shadow of the diplomat and military officer TE Lawrence.

Letters from Baghdad is an engrossing documentary that puts Bell firmly in the spotlight. In doing so, it makes up for 2015's much-maligned epic biographical drama *Queen of the Desert*. That movie saw Nicole Kidman portraying Bell, the woman who had travelled widely in Arabia and was so instrumental in helping draw the borders of Iraq after World War I. This time, Tilda Swinton takes on the role, although you never actually see the acclaimed actress on screen.

Instead, Swinton explains Bell's extraordinary journey by reading extracts from the exquisitely insightful letters the charismatic explorer penned throughout her time in the Middle East. Directors Sabine Krayenbühl and Zeva Oelbaum accompany the audio with previously unseen footage and photographs from Bell's own collection, supplemented with documents from the Iraq National Library and Archive. Such ingredients lend the documentary an emotional depth and sense of place.

Where it perhaps falters is in its talking-heads. Shot in black and white to fit in with the rest of the film, they use actors in the role of Bell's contemporaries. But while

it brings the likes of TE Lawrence, Vita Sackville-West and Arab reformer Suleiman Faidji to life, their largely positive recollections act as a restraint. There is too much emphasis on fact in this case and a frustrating lack of reflection. It's been 40 years since Edward Said's book *Orientalism* redefined our understanding of colonialism and empire but you would not know it from this film.

Even so, it succeeds on other levels. The letters get under Bell's skin and show the warmth she had with her family. The film also highlights her dedication and intelligence as she travelled to the Ottoman Empire, defied her government and became respected in an area of the world where women tended not to exert influence. 'In the desert, every newcomer is an enemy til you know him to be a friend,' she wrote. She made many friends.

Bell also learned Farsi, Arabic and Turkish and became a foremost Western expert on Eastern culture. Yet we learn that she 'never mastered the art of spelling' and we get an insight into the men she loved. Still, it's not perfect. Sometimes the documentary skips what feels like an important point – most starkly her later, negative thoughts on the Sunni prince Feisal's reign. At other times, the chronology feels out of sync.

But watching Bell's rise and seeing her create a lasting physical legacy in the Baghdad Archaeological Museum (which, the filmmakers point out, was looted during the US invasion of 2003) is a sheer delight. The documentary also rattles by. You feel you know enough about her to feel deep sadness at her untimely death, aged 58 of an apparent overdose of sleeping pills. Unfortunately, you just wish it had told you a little bit more.

Impeccably researched and packed with primary sources, it brings the history of Bell and Iraq to life.



ASK THE AUTHOR



Ben Kane discusses his new novel *Clash of Empires*, which features a smackdown between two of the ancient world's biggest players: Rome and Greece

Q Having already covered the Second Punic War in your *Hannibal* series, what attracted you to this story?

A It's one of the pivotal moments in European history yet is little known. In 225 BCE, Macedonia was one of five major powers in Mediterranean Europe, along with Carthage, Rome, Egypt and the Seleucid Empire, which spanned from Turkey to India. By 202 BCE, Rome had defeated Carthage. Macedonia was next to be attacked and after it, the Seleucid Empire. By 169 BCE, only Rome and a tottering Egypt were left.

Q How serious a threat was Macedonia to rising Rome?

A Philip V would have been wiser not to lock horns with the Roman Republic in the first place. By 202 BCE, however, he was on their radar, so to speak, and war was inevitable. His army was about 25,000 to 30,000 men strong. The Roman army could call on 20 legions – about 100,000 men – with a backup pool of manpower that was several times that number.

Q Who is your favourite character in *Clash of Empires*?

A Probably Demetrios – he's a down-on-his-luck oarsman who gets offered the chance to become one of King Philip's crack soldiers: a phalangist (one of the men who fought in the phalanx).

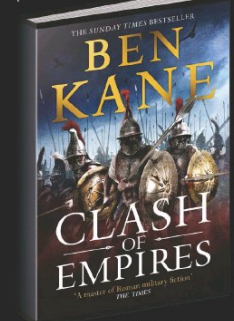
Q What sort of research did you have to do for this novel?

A About three months of intensive reading about Ancient Greece, its peoples, religion, social structure, its armies and geography. It was hard work!

Q Is *Clash of Empires* a standalone novel or part of a series?

A It's the first of two novels about the war between Rome and Macedonia. My book for 2020 will be a standalone, and quite possibly not set in Ancient Rome.

Clash of Empires is available now for £15 from Orion.



ENGLAND'S FORGOTTEN PAST

Exploring the overlooked episodes of English history

Author Richard Tames **Publisher** Thames & Hudson **Price** £9 **Released** Out now

It's no secret that England is a country steeped in dramatic history. From bloody struggles for royal supremacy to the Industrial Revolution, the land of the Angles has witnessed more than enough to fill countless history books. Yet somehow, a lot of its most interesting moments seem to have been completely forgotten. Step forward Richard Tames.

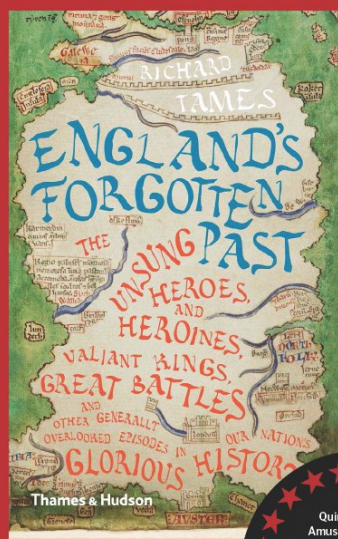
Divided into sections and adorned with images, Tames' work is the very definition of an intriguing coffee-table read – but putting this book down for a moment proved rather difficult. A relentless stream of eyebrow-raising facts and strange anecdotes is an irresistible combination.

Beginning with such early nuggets as the first written record of the British Isles, penned by the Greek Pytheas of Marseilles in the 4th century BCE, who described its inhabitants as 'painted people', Tames takes the reader on a rampage across the nation, examining the truth behind

some supposed 'facts' while revealing a host of utterly ignored figures and events.

Take, for example, Daniel Mendoza, England's undisputed boxing champion from 1792 to 1795, architect of connecting a range of punches in a combination and the country's first sporting superstar. Then there's Alexis Soyer, the founder of army catering and the 19th century's answer to Jamie Oliver. There are also the ten occasions since 1066 on which England found itself the subject of an invasion, from Henry of Anjou's unrelenting raids in the 1100s to the thwarted efforts of 1400 French soldiers in 1797 – they failed to take Bristol but wasted little time in sampling England's alcoholic offerings.

It matters not whether you are a historical amateur or academic – this enlightening depository of timeless tidbits is sure to both challenge preconceived ideas and reinforce a love of England's gripping journey to date.



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HISTORY VS HOLLYWOOD

Fact versus fiction on the silver screen



A UNITED KINGDOM

Director: Amma Asante Starring: David Oyelowo, Rosamund Pike, Terry Pheto, Jack Davenport, Tom Felton
Country: United Kingdom, Botswana Released: 2016

The epic love story of an African king and an ordinary English woman that sent shockwaves around the world - but how true is it?

VERDICT This film provides an accurate, if condensed, portrayal of the controversial love affair

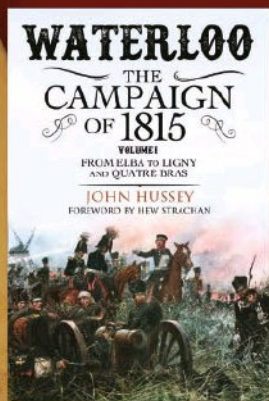
- 01 In the film, the future king Seretse Khama and Ruth Williams enjoy a whirlwind romance. However, in real life, Ruth was a lot more hesitant about getting together. The couple did not initially get on until they bonded over a shared love for jazz music.
- 02 Ruth really was disowned by her father for marrying a black man, as portrayed in the film but the movie omits that she was also fired for it. Seretse's uncle Tshekedi, serving as regent, also threatened to fight him if returned to his native home with Ruth.
- 03 While the British did trick Seretse into leaving Bechuanaland by recalling him to London only to ban him from returning, the film includes a forced separation between the pair. In real life, Ruth followed Seretse and they lived together in London from 1951.
- 04 Sir Alastair Canning and Rufus Lancaster are entirely fictional characters, personifying the British government's opposition to Seretse and Ruth's marriage. Colonial Secretary Patrick Gordon Walker was roughly equivalent to Davenport's character in real life.
- 05 Winston Churchill did promise to lift Seretse's exile if he won the 1951 general election - and promptly turned it into a lifelong ban following his victory. Seretse was eventually allowed to return home, where he became prime minister in 1965.



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PEN & SWORD BOOKS NAPOLEONIC WARS

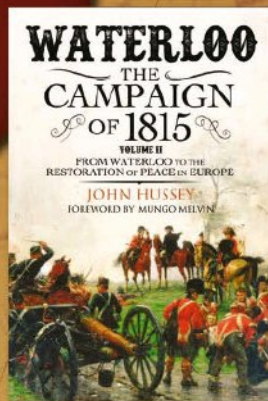
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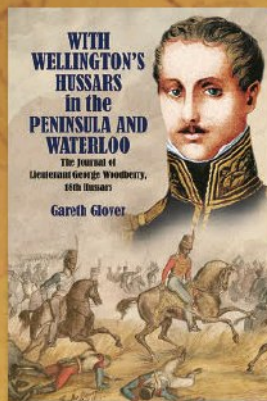
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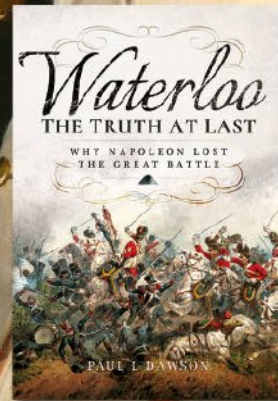
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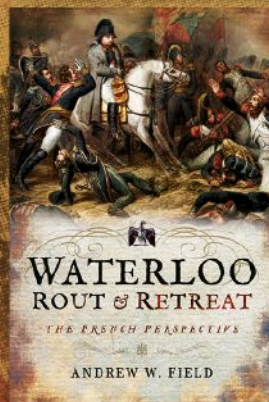
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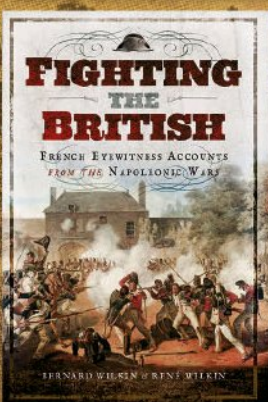
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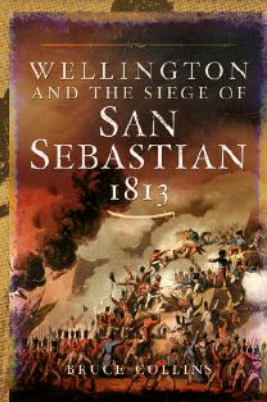
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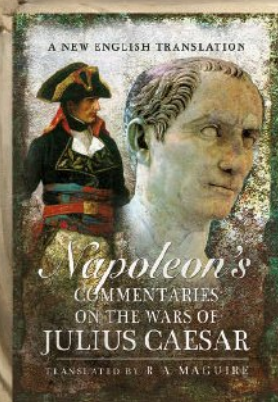
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